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COMMENTARIES, EDITORIAL DISCUSS JANUARY TALKS

Kondrashov Commentary

LD092028 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 9 Dec 84

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Stanislav Kondrashov]

[Text] Comrades, I would now like to share with you some of my impressions left by a recent trip to the United States. I went there as IZVESTIYA special correspondent for the elections and then I stayed on for a while after the elections. I had quite a lot of meetings and conversations with various Americans in the know -- official meetings and even more unofficial ones -- with journalists, businessmen and political scientists. Prior to this the last time I visited America was 2 years ago. It can now be felt that something in the atmosphere has changed. There has come to be more goodwill and in any case more interest in exchanging opinions with Soviet journalists.

Over a month has gone by since the elections now. Only one result of these elections continues to remain definite and unchanged: that is the victory, and quite an impressive one, for Reagan over Mondale. Another result was uncertain and remains so. That is, uncertainty as to the policy of the White House chief who remains in power for a second term in regard to U.S.-USSR relations.

That was the main impression I returned with -- an impression of uncertainty and at the same time of a certain vague hope. This hope is destined either to grow stronger or disappear once again. The first serious test comes in the form of the forthcoming USSR-U.S. meeting in Geneva due to take place on 7-8 January.

Americans with whom I talked had various opinions and forecasts to make. For example, one big businessman who is trying to expand U.S.-USSR economic ties, not without some irony, put forward two variants -- the optimistic one, as he put it, and the pessimistic one. The first of these is, according to him, propagandized by his acquaintances in White House circles. The second, that is the more pessimistic one, stems from journalists and political observers who are skeptical regarding the President's words.

Another American with whom I spoke was Marshall Shulman. Under Carter he was a chief specialist on Soviet affairs in the State Department and now heads the Harriman Institute for Soviet Studies at Columbia University in New York. He is an experienced man. He said that there are difficult times ahead and that the task is to get through them without excessive losses.

Another experienced person, Paul Warnke, who headed the U.S. delegation at the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) reckons that there is a chance for the normalization of relations, even if that is because, he said, the Republicans, that is the ruling party, cannot allow themselves to arrive at the 1988 presidential elections with a service record showing a whole 8 years of uninterrupted deterioration in relations with another great power.

I also had the chance to chat with some people on the staff of the White House and State Department. They assured me that President Reagan is serious about improving relations with the Soviet Union and that in reality he considers this to be task number one for his second term and that he must just throw himself immediately to work without wasting any time.

But then suddenly, immediately after the elections, an anti-Soviet and anti-Cuban campaign was fanned, and clearly with support from official circles, without any grounds over sham reports on supplies to Nicaragua of Soviet MIG-21 aircraft.

When you look closely at this fierce campaign it at least shows the strength of elements within the Reagan administration that do not want any movement toward improving relations and it shows the ease with which they can draw other more moderate and sane elements into their game.

This was where my impression of uncertainty came from. However, there are certain weighty and objective factors that push Washington and will continue to push Washington toward dialogue with Moscow. First, there is the unambiguous mandate from the electorate in the area of foreign policy. To judge from one poll taken after the elections, two-thirds of Americans overall and nine-tenths of those who voted for Reagan considered that he would make real efforts to achieve good accord with the Soviet Union on arms control.

The second objective factor is the attitude of Congress. A conservative President has been reelected but as a result of the elections the conservative wing in the Congress was not left any stronger. The new leadership in the Senate, where the positions of the Republicans have been weakened, although they kept the majority will, according to what people think, occupy a more independent position on budget issues and in particular on issues involving military allocations. Further increase in military spending is becoming intolerable because of inconceivable budget deficits that are placing the prospects for the development of the U.S. economy as a whole in question.

But within the administration itself there is currently an almost open struggle between the more moderate and the dull-witted elements. It is having an effect on appointments and displacements in recent weeks and on rumors of possible transfers. The broad U.S. public, for its part, is perhaps ready to align itself with the appeal of Senator Edward Kennedy. He recently stated, and I quote, Ronald Reagan has a favorable opportunity. His administration has proved that it has sufficient will to increase nuclear weapons. May it now prove that it has sufficient wisdom to control them.

I would like to end my brief report on my recent trip to the United States with these words.

Zorin: Readiness Questioned

LD090650 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 8 Dec 84

["Moscow Viewpoint" by political observer Valentin Zorin]

[Text] The Soviet Union and the United States have agreed to enter into new talks to reach mutually acceptable accords on the entire range of issues related to nuclear and space weapons. Andrey Gromyko and George Shultz will meet in Geneva 7-8 January next year to work out a common understanding of the subjects and goals of these talks.

Washington's official reaction to the Soviet initiative for holding new talks was positive. Lately, however, quite a few facts have come to light indicating that some powerful forces in Washington would like to hamper the Geneva meeting and impede the future talks. The Soviet initiative provides for discussing the entire range of mutually related issues concerning nuclear and space weapons. Nevertheless, in spite of the fact that the proposed talks are not far off, the United States Administration has continued to move along the dangerous path leading to weapons in space.

President Reagan has authorized the setting up of a united space command at the Pentagon. Preparations are under way at Cape Canaveral for the launching in January of a space craft on an entirely military mission. The first national symposium of the space (?fund) of the United States has been held at Pike's Peak Air Force Base [as heard] near Colorado Springs.

Taking part were several hundred people, and among them ranking Pentagon officials, directors of leading military corporations, and also some scientists working on instructions from the White House on a large-scale antimissile system incorporating spaceborne elements.

According to the American press the symposium discussed preparations for space wars and the issue of taking the arms race to space. According to reports in the United States press, the Pentagon wants to fill outer space with space fighters, killer satellites, space mines, and take other more advanced weapons to orbits round the earth.

While memoranda and speeches are written in diplomatic offices, and while official American spokesmen assure the public of Washington's readiness for talks in Geneva, the Pentagon and the circles related to it are engaged in a hectic activity aimed at taking the arms race to space at an early date. The nearest future will show whether the Washington leadership is ready to fulfill the promises which were so solemnly given to the American electors. Or was it all preelection rhetoric which is forgotten the next day after the elections?

Beglov on Soviet Stance

LD072343 Moscow World Service in English 2110 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Spartak Beglov commentary]

[Text] In a recent message to International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear Wars, the Soviet leader, Konstantin Chernenko, spoke of preventing the militarization of outer space as a top priority. We bring you a commentary by Spartak Beglov of the NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY:

The Soviet stand was spelled out at the highest level one month before the Soviet Union and the United States are due to open new talks in Geneva on the entire range of interrelated problems on preventing the militarization of space and reducing strategic nuclear arms and intermediate-range nuclear arms.

It's quite understandable that news of the talks has aroused huge public interest as well as great expectations around the world. People are asking with hope whether this time the race towards the irreparable will be stopped.

The Soviet approach to the talks is crystal clear. This country wants space to be free from any weapons and be used for none but peaceful purposes. It wants specific measures to be worked out to reduce arms on earth. The Soviet Union calls for freezing nuclear arsenals and banning all tests of nuclear weapons.

As for the United States, it has made a lot of speeches for peace, but so far has failed to give any convincing signals about any intention to abandon its course toward military supremacy or its first nuclear strike concept.

This week after President Chernenko met the American industrialist, Armand Hammer, a White House spokesman said the United States had no intention to renounce the first use of nuclear weapons. The Soviet Union assumed this pledge back in 1982.

In the meantime, news has come from the United States that a joint space command has been set up there. The move can only be summed up as another push to deploying weapons in space. All this undermines trust in the sincerity of Washington's peace rhetoric and doesn't help in the search for mutually acceptable solutions.

MOSCOW NEWS Editorial

PM100735 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English 2 Dec 84 p 6

[Editorial: "What Can Be Expected From Geneva?"]

[Text] The Soviet Union and the United States have agreed to a new round of talks with the view of reaching mutually acceptable accords on a whole range of issues concerning nuclear and space weapons. The initiative came from the Soviet side. The two countries' foreign ministers, Andrey Gromyko and George Shultz, are to meet in Geneva on January 7-8, 1985, to work out a joint understanding of the subject of the talks and their aims.

This news has been given front-page coverage in the American press.

The Soviet press has preferred a more reserved matter-of-fact tone.

The American press is creating the impression that something has already happened.

In reality, there is a large question mark hanging over the talks. What position will President Reagan's second administration adopt? Is it really prepared to get down to serious talks?

The Soviet position is clear and consistent while the American one is vague and contradictory.

The Soviet Union called for dialogue with the United States on all levels in February 1981, immediately after the first Reagan administration came to power, but they said: "No".

Now THE NEW YORK TIMES writes in its editorial that "the voters wanted something more than hostility and diplomatic confusion of his first three years... If words mean anything, President Reagan's clearest new mandate is to seek an arms control agreement with the Soviet Union."

As presidential candidate, Reagan promised to seek such an agreement so that the Americans' agreeing to the proposed talks in Geneva can be viewed as a step towards keeping that promise. Yet the statements by Washington officials and comments by US political analysts show the administration's practical and ideological unpreparedness for taking subsequent steps.

They talk about "differences" between "conservatives" who see no use whatever in the US' discontinuing the arms race, and "moderates", about the lack of new ideas and the refusal to overhaul previous dead-end positions. They assess the degree of influence the "hard-liners" have on the President, and conclude that unless they leave, nothing will come of the talks.

Anyway, Washington still faces two choices -- either to continue along the course of confrontation, or to switch to the course of peaceful coexistence.

As far as the Soviet side is concerned, it has made its choice long ago. Peaceful coexistence is the only rational basis for international relations.

In the event of both sides proceeding from this understanding, the Soviet Union doing so unswervingly, a constructive development of Soviet-American relations is guaranteed.

NEW TIMES EDITORIAL AFFIRMS USSR PEACE STANCE

PM071211 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 47, Nov 84 p 1

[Editorial: "No Alternative"]

[Text] And so the U.S. elections are over. The electoral contest and its outcome are dealt with elsewhere in this issue by our New York correspondent Andrey Arkhipov. Here we shall focus on one question that was widely discussed during the presidential marathon -- the state of Soviet-American relations. It will not be an exaggeration to say that most Americans consider this the key problem in international relations. Soviet people also see the crucial bearing Soviet-American relations have on the outlook for peace. Understandable therefore is the keen interest the Soviet, American and, indeed, world public have evinced in the message from Konstantin Chernenko to American readers which opens the book "Soviet-American Relations: Articles and Speeches by Konstantin Chernenko" put out by the American Praeger Publishers.

True enough, the Soviet Union and the United States bear a special responsibility for the trend of world developments, for international security, for ensuring that the people of all countries should be able to live and work at peace, without fearing for their future and the future of their children. Hence the balanced approach of the Soviet side to everything that determines the state of Soviet-American relations, to everything that could improve them.

"We," Konstantin Chernenko stresses in his message, "find it hard to understand the reasoning of those who allege that tension in relations with the Soviet Union will inevitably be maintained, that it is almost predestined, and that the United States has nothing to lose by that. There are also people in your country who assert that they are not against normal relations with the Soviet Union, that they are for talks with it, and even for arms limitation agreements. But for this, they say, the United States must be stronger than the Soviet Union. This, of course, is not so. Striving for military superiority and conducting honest businesslike talks on questions that affect the national security of the two parties are incompatible."

Honest negotiations are indeed not compatible with the striving of U.S. imperialism to upset the existing strategic balance, with the U.S. drive for military superiority, with the unbridled arms build-up all along the line, with the existence of the numerous U.S. military bases pointed against the U.S.S.R. and the other socialist countries, with the deployment in Western Europe of the American medium-range nuclear missiles, with the striving to make outer space an arena of military rivalry, or with the gross interference of U.S. Imperialism in the internal affairs of other peoples and states.

Attempts to gain military superiority are futile and dangerous. Such attempts cannot but complicate relations between the Soviet Union and the United States. When both sides displayed willingness to observe the principle of equality and equal security and on this basis arrived at mutually acceptable arrangements, including arms limitation agreements, the state of their relations improved. This is a matter of historical record.

The Soviet Union abides by Lenin's counsel to seek "the simplest and most obvious decisions and measure that would certainly lead to peace." Consistently advocating the limitation and reduction of armaments, the Soviet Union is ready for serious and honest talks aimed at concluding agreements that would not encroach on anyone's interests. The Soviet leadership has time and again made this plain to the U.S. administration. The Soviet Union wants equal and as good relations as possible with the U.S., it wants to reach understandings with it.

There is not a single important issue, not a single sphere relating to international security in which the Soviet Union has not put forward concrete initiatives. The important thing is that our proposals be judged of without bias, objectively. Prejudice, unwillingness to face the truth, has never led to anything good, and today it could have the most grievous consequences.

"We have no alternative but to live together," Konstantin Chernenko says in his message to American readers. "This being so, it is better to live not in an atmosphere of enmity and fear, but in peace, as human beings should live, observing certain standards in our relations." The U.S.S.R. is ready for joint effort to rectify Soviet-American relations on the basis of equality and respect of each other's legitimate interests, to remove the threat of war and radically to improve the international situation. This would be in the interests of both our peoples as well as of world peace.

BUSH JUSTIFIES U.S. SPACE MILITARIZATION PLANS

LD071748 Moscow TASS in English 1741 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Text] Washington December TASS -- As follows from a speech that U.S. Vice President George Bush made at a symposium at National Defence University, the Reagan administration continues working out the dangerous plans for the militarisation of space. George Bush spoke about the growing significance of outer space for the ensurance of the United States security, tried to prove the need for the implementation of a sped up and stable space programme whose idea is supported by President Reagan. Trying to justify this dangerous course of the White House which evokes large-scale protests of the U.S. and international public, the vice president tried to intimidate his audience with the "Soviet military menace", was crudely distorting the Soviet Union's peaceful policy in this sphere aimed at the prevention of the militarisation of space. He even asserted that it is, allegedly, the U.S. programme of creating a large-scale anti-ballistic defence system with space-basing elements that is meant for ridding mankind of the threat of nuclear catastrophe.

Bonn December 7 TASS -- DER SPIEGEL magazine writes that Washington's assertions about the allgedly "defensive" character of space weaponry is a lie aimed at reassuring the international public that is alarmed by the U.S. programme of "star wars". These statements are aimed at camouflaging the United States striving to tip a rough balance in the military sphere with the USSR. The article says that the programme of the militarisation of space on which 500,000 million dollars is planned to be spent has already assumed a definite outline. Lasers, particle-beam weapons, anti-satellite systems, killer satellites are being developed and tested. A number of space commands have been set up and it is talked now about creating a new type of the armed forces, space forces, the magazine writes. The "space shuttle" programme is actually subjugated completely to military purposes.

Pronouncements of high-ranking U.S. military commanders clearly show Washington's real purposes in outer space. DER SPIEGEL points out that general of the U.S. Air Force R. Marsh said outright that the United States should be capable of waging war from earth against space, in space and from space against earth.

London December 7 TASS -- The newspaper GUARDIAN stresses that the implementation of the United States plans for militarisation of outer space will only lead to the spiralling of the arms race. The newspaper stresses in the editorial article that the Soviet Union clearly declared that it will take adequate steps in reply if the United States develops and creates space weaponry. If Washington really has a serious attitude to arms control, it should give up the programmes of creating space weaponry. The Reagan administration should realize that the course of achieving military superiority never brought success to those who shape it and never will, the newspaper writes.

Kharkov Commentary

LD071702 Moscow TASS in English 1643 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Text] Moscow December 7 TASS -- By TASS news analyst Vasiliy Kharkov:

United States Vice-President George Bush has called for a rapid implementation of a U.S. programme of space militarization. Addressing a symposium, sponsored by the National Defence University, on Wednesday, he said that importance of outer space for ensuring U.S. security in the military sphere is more than obvious. In time, Bush added, the possibility of using space for military purposes will only grow.

The U.S. vice-president's remarks reaffirm the Washington administration's aspiration to spread the arms race into outer space. Concrete steps are being undertaken with this aim in view.

The White House announced the other day the establishment in the Pentagon of a joint space command entrusted with extensive powers -- from development of military space systems to their direct use. Earlier on, space commands have been set up in the U.S. Airforce and Navy.

Preparations are under way at Cape Canaveral, Florida, for a launch next month of the space shuttle Discovery which, as the American press admits, will pursue purely military aims.

At the same time, it has been officially announced in Washington that the United States is not going to impose a moratorium on the testing of anti-satellite weapons.

It is apparent that plans of space militarization are given top priority in the large-scale programme of "America's rearmament" which is designed to ensure the United States military superiority and a greater first-strike potential.

The steps to militarize outerspace are masked by the need to "ensure security". But it is absurdity to ensure security through piling up weapons, including those of new types.

It was reiterated at the latest meeting in Berlin of the Warsaw Treaty Foreign Ministers' Committee that militarization of outer space, if it is not timely blocked, would sharply enhance the risk of nuclear war, would result in an unprecedented upsurge of the nuclear arms race.

The recent adoption by the First Committee of the U.N. General Assembly of a resolution on preventing the arms race in outer space attests to the world community's noble aspirations to secure the use of outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes, for the benefit of mankind. It is indicative that the United States was the only country which abstained during the voting on the resolution.

The initiative of the Soviet Union which suggested starting new talks with the United States to cover the entire range of mutually related issues on non-militarization of space and reduction of strategic nuclear armaments and medium-range nuclear systems reflects the Soviet side's sincere striving to look for most radical solutions in all these directions.

The U.S. vice-president's calls for boosting space militarization do not attest to the American side having the same readiness.

U.S. TO TEST-LAUNCH CRUISE MISSILES OVER CANADA

LD080649 Moscow TASS in English 0638 GMT 8 Dec 84

[Text] Washington December 8 TASS -- A spokesman of the U.S. Air Force has announced that the United States and Canada have reached agreement on carrying out tests of air-launched cruise missiles in conditions approximated to combat ones over the north-western areas of Canada in a period from January to March next year. During the tests, two cruise missiles are to be launched from [on] board B-52 bombers which will be over Beaufort Sea. Upon covering a distance of about 2,500 kilometres, the missiles are to hit a target at the Cold Lake missile range of the Canadian Air Force in Alberta Province.

The spokesman said that the Pentagon has already carried out 24 tests of air-launched cruise missiles over U.S. territory since December 1982. In March this year, one cruise missile was "dropped" from the wing of a B-52 over Canada without starting the motor and glided to check the navigation system. Time has now come for a stage of actual launchings of missiles over the territory of the USA's northern neighbour.

AGAYANTS COMMENTS ON U.S. CHEMICAL ARMS BUILDUP

LD101000 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2030 GMT 9 Dec 84

[Nikolay Agayants commentary]

[Text] The U.S. military continues active preparations for waging widescale chemical warfare. As the paper NEW YORK TIMES writes, more than $1 billion has been allocated for these evil purposes in the 1985 Pentagon budget. Here is our commentator, Nikolay Agayants:

Despite the fact that in 1975 the United States finally signed the Geneva protocol banning the use of asphyxiating, poisonous, and other similar gases and also bacteriological weapons in war, the Pentagon brass hats, with the blessing of official Washington, are methodically improving their chemical arsenal. According to UN General Assembly First Committee data there are hundreds of tons of deadly toxic substances stored at U.S. dumps in the form of artillery shells, bombs and landmines containing the "Sarin" and ("Zaman") types of nerve gas. However, in its extremely dangerous preparations, the U.S. war department is going even further, developing more and more types of mass destructive chemical weapons.

The Washington pharisees [words indistinct] they say, (?borders) on the interests of the security of the United States and its allies in the NATO bloc. This is a monstrous lie, a lie which even the loyal bourgeois U.S. press is forced to admit. Thus, for example, NEWSWEEK wrote recently, and I quote: In the whole history of international relations, no single state in the world has resorted to such wide use of chemical weapons as the United States. And the famous publicist [words indistinct], in an article entitled "The Revival of Chemical War," noted that the Pentagon plans to set up stocks of the drastic [word indistinct] of the so-called binary gas are inhuman and represent a colossal threat to millions of people.

The unconcealable alarm and justified concern of the progressive public is aroused by reports coming from the United States concerning the intention of the U.S. war department to deploy chemical weapons on the territory of Italy, the FRG and certain other Western European countries. Caspar Weinberger, the Pentagon boss, said cynically in one of his interviews with the Voice of America that Washington is looking into the question of possibly reviewing international treaties and agreements in which the use of chemical and bacteriological weapons is hampered. These revelations need no comment.

FURTHER ON PRAGUE CONFERENCE ON SOCIALISM

Conference Communique

LD071252 Moscow TASS in English 1218 GMT 7 Dec 84

["Communique on the Results of the Discussion of the Work of the International Magazine PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Prague December 7 TASS - A discussion of the work of the international magazine of communist and workers' parties PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM (English language edition -- WORLD MARXIST REVIEW) was conducted in Prague on December 4-6, 1984. Taking part in it were delegations of 91 parties: Socialist Party of Australia, Communist Party of Austria, Socialist Vanguard Party of Algeria, MPLA-Workers' Party (Angola), Communist Party of Argentina, People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Communist Party of Bangladesh, National Liberation Front of Bahrain, Communist Party of Belgium, People's Revolution Party of Benin, Bulgarian Communist Party, Communist Party of Bolivia, brazilian Communist Party, Communist Party of Great Britain, Communist Party of Venezuela, Hungarian Socialist Worker's Party,

Communist Party of Vietnam, United Party of Haitian Communists, People's Progressive Party of Guyana, Communist Party of Guadeloupe, Guatemalan Party of Labour, Socialist Unity Party of Germany, German Communist Party, Communist Party of Honduras, Communist Party of Greece, Communist Party of Denmark, Dominican Communist Party, Egyptian Communist Party, Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin, Communist Party of Isreal, Communist Party of India, Communist Party of Indonesia, Jordanian Communist Party, Iraqi Communist Party, Tudeh Party of Iran, Communist Party of Ireland, Communist Party of Spain, Italian Communist Party, Yemen Socialist Party, People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, Communist Party of Canada, Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus -- AKEL,

Colombian Communist Party, Congolese Party of Labour, Workers' Party of Korea, People's Vanguard Party of Costa Rica, Communist Party of Cuba, Lebanese Communist Party, Communist Party of Luxembourg, Independence Congress Party of Madagascar, Communist Party of Malta, Progressive and Socialism Party of Morocco, Martinique Communist Party, United Socialist Party of Mexico, Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, Communist Party of Nepal, Socialist Unity Party of New Zealand, Communist Party of Norway, Communist Party of Pakistan, Palestinian Communist Party, People's Party of Panama, Paraguayan Communist Party, Peruvian Communist Party, Polish United Worker's Party, Portuguese Communist Party, Romanian Communist Party, Communist Party of El Salvador, San Marino Communist Party,

Communist Party of Saudi Arabia, Independence and Labour Party of Senegal, Syrian Communist Party, Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Sudanese Communist Party, Communist Party of the United States, Tunisian Communist Party, Communist Party of Turkey, Communist Party of Uruguay, Communist Party of the Philippines, Communist Party of Finland, Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, Communist Party of Chile, Swiss Party of Labour, Left Party-Communists of Sweden, Communist Party of Sri Lanka, Communist Party of Ecuador, Workers' Party of Ethiopia, South African Communist Party, Workers' Party of Jamaica, Communist Party of Japan, as well as two other parties whose names are not mentioned on their request.

Submitted for discussion was a report of the editorial board and the editorial council on the magazine's activities in the period from November 1981 to November 1984.

The participants in the discussion analysed the magazine's activities, made concrete remarks and proposals with a view to further improving their collective publication.

Special attention was given to problems of strengthening peace and the security of peoples, of counter-acting the aggressive policy of imperialism and spreading the multifaceted experience of the communists' struggle.

The representatives of the fraternal parties recommended the editorial board and the editorial council to take into account the wishes that were expressed so that the international collective of PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM would constantly work in a spirit of equality, cooperation and respect for the interests of each party, facilitating the dissemination and assertion of the ideals of peace, democracy, national liberation and socialism, the strengthening of the cohesion and solidarity of all progressive forces. The discussion passed in an open, comradely atmosphere.

Participants' Comments Cited

LD052247 Moscow TASS in English 1918 GMT 5 Dec 84

[Text] Prague December 5 TASS — It is necessary to oppose imperialism's "crusade" whose victim Grenada has become and that now chose Cuba and Nicaragua as its next targets, said member of the Political Commission and Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Argentina Oscar Arevalo. He spoke here at a meeting of representatives of communist, workers' and revolutionary-democratic parties, discussing the work of the journal PROBLEMS OF PEACE AND SOCIALISM (the English edition -- THE WORLD MARXIST REVIEW).

Latin America is now living through a most important process of the deployment of forces which requires analysis and summing up of the experience, Oscar Arevalo said. A conference of the communist parties of South America that was held in Buenos Aires this year was devoted to this. Taking into account the present situation in the world and the responsibility of Communists, the parties which participate in this meeting declare for the holding of a world forum of communist and workers' parties on questions of peace and war.

Member of the Political Bureau, secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Hermann Exen pointed out that a long and tireless struggle is ahead to achieve a turn for the better in international relations. We support new important initiatives of the Soviet Union, he said.

As a result of reply measures of the USSR, GDR and Czechoslovakia, under the effect of peaceful Soviet proposals, the Governments of the USA, other NATO countries were compelled to respond to the Soviet Union's proposal abou the holding of new talks. Hermann Axen pointed to the timeliness of the proposal of fraternal parties of South America to convene an international conference of communist and workers' parties. He said the Socialist Unity Party of Germany is prepared to hold consultations with fraternal parties on this question.

General Secretary of the South African Communist Party Moses Mabhida said: Socialist countries showed in deed that they are the strongest bulwark of peace and that they do not allow imperialist powers to act with impunity. Anti-communism and anti-Sovietism of the ideological henchmen of imperialism developed into a "crusade". The struggle against anti-Sovietism is an inseparable part of the struggle for social transformation of the world.

The Bulgarian Communist Party, said member of the Political Bureau, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party Milko Balev, stressed many times the need of convening a regular meeting of fraternal parties that would discuss measures to oppose international reaction and above all the U.S. military so as to save humanity from thermo-nuclear war. We join with conviction the proposal made in this spirit.

A profound working out and analysis of complex processes of the development of the international communist movement is the demand of times, Milko Balev said.

Member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba Raul Valdes Vivo said that Marxism-Leninism always rejected terrorism as a method of struggle. State terrorism is as alien to socialism as exploitation of other peoples. Latin America is now at crossroads which might prove decisive from the viewpoint of prospects of the struggle for national and social liberation of the continent.

In his speech member of the Central Executive Committee of the National Council of the Communist Party of India Raj Bahadur Gour pointed out that unity of the communist movement, just as questions of ideological cohesion in the principles of Marxism-Leninism, proletarian internationalism assume ever greater importance in conditions of the increased aggressiveness of U.S. imperialism.

Member of the Executive Committee and Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Denmark Ib Norlund stressed that socialism has become a decisive force of world development. This fact should be used duly and to the utmost by all revolutionaries, all progressive, democratic forces. Anti-Sovietism and anti-communism are directed not only against the Communists, against the working class, but also against the entire anti-war movement.

Call for World CP Meeting

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 6 December carries on its First Edition on page 4 a report on the 4 December meeting in Prague to disucss the work of the journal WORLD MARXISM REVIEW. In addition to carrying versions of participants' speeches that are similar to the versions carried in a TASS report published on page BB 6 of the 5 December Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, PRAVDA has the following for the fourth paragraph concerning the speech by Austrian Communist Party member Erwin Sharf:

"The Austrian Communist Party considers that in the face of the global threat there is a need for a world meeting of communist and workers parties to discuss the most urgent problem of our time -- the struggle against the danger of nuclear war and for the preservation of peace."

Socialist Unity Stressed

LD080009 Moscow TASS in English 2329 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Text] Prague December 7 TASS -- Representatives of 82 parties spoke at a meeting of representatives of communist, workers' and revolutionary-democratic parties, which ended here on Thursday. The meeting discussed the work of the journal WORLD MARXIST REVIEW.

Member of the Central Committee of the Portuguese Communist Party Carlos Aboim Ingles pointed to full legitimacy of actions of socialist countries which in answer to the growing direct threat to them are taking counter-measures and at the same time making important diplomatic initiatives for talks on safeguarding peace. He said the criminal arms race unleashed by the most aggressive circles of the United States and NATO jeopardizes the future of peace and makes ever more intolerable such ills of capitalism as unemployment, backwardness, hunger, diseases. This is why peace and detente are now more than ever the prime concern and insistent demand of entire mankind.

Member of the Presidium and Secretariat of the Board of the German Communist Party Karl-Heinz Schroeder said that as a result of the deployment of new U.S. missiles on the FRG territory there emerged a danger that a war may start from German land again.

The cardinal problem in the Federal Republic of Germany is to arrest the commercial deployment of U.S. first-strike nuclear weapons. The lie about a "Soviet menace" pursues the aim of leading astray the peace movement, of stifling the protest of the masses.

Dwelling on the revanchist danger mounting in the FRG, he said that FRG imperialism is striving the role of a lance spearheaded against socialism. Karl-Heinz Schroeder called for the stepping up of the struggle against anti-Sovietism as the main ideological means in the arsenal of imperailism. The "crusade" is spearheaded against the Soviet Union precisely because the Soviet Union is the main barrier to the United States' striving for a world domination. The spread of the truth about real socialism assumes cardinal importance in this connection, he said.

A strong need is felt now for the consolidation of the unity of the communist movement, said general secretary of Ireland's Communist Party James Stewart. He stressed that the communist parties of socialist and capitalist countries have the common purpose and the common enemy, imperialism.

Deputy chairman of the Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin Dietmar Ahrens said: Today's generation bears a lofty responsibility, without precedent in mankind's history, for the preservation of life on earth. Despite all the efforts of the bourgeois mass media, evergrowing number of people come to realise that socialism is their firmest and the most reliable support in the struggle for peace. The Soviet Union's peace proposals and initiatives largely relfect the aspirations of all peoples.

The meeting in Prague showed the growing unity of the communist workers' and revolutionary-democratic parties of all continents and regions in the struggle against the forces of imperialism and war, for peace and social progress.

Prague Interviews Zagladin

LD071357 Prague International Service in Czech and Slovak 2230 GMT 6 Dec 84

[Text] It has become a tradition that the regular conferences of representatives of communist and workers parties about the work of the magazine WORLD MARXIST REVIEW do not concern themselves only with analysis of its work, but with wider discussion about current global issues. What tasks come to the fore in this context in the international workers movement was the question we put to Vadim Zagladin, first deputy chairman of the CPSU Central Committee International Department.

[Begin Zagladin recording in Russian fading into Czech translation] The magazine works in the front line of ideological stuggle and naturally reflects the most pressing and current questions facing Communists and the world public. This is why every conference discusses the main questions concerning world events. At this conference the foremost question was the preservation and strengthening of world peace. Two sides to the question emerged. On one hand we know the threat to peace has grown. This is connected with well-known prollems, for example, the deployment of American nuclear missiles in Western Europe, the militarization of space and so forth. The possibilities of the strengthening of peace are designated by a huge wave of the peace movement, the active work of the socialist community and its peace proposals. At the conference it was emphasized that Communists carry particular responsibility on the question of peace. Their main task is to give a deep analysis of the current situation, to develop a plan of action to propose concrete slogans and to act as organizers of the mass peace movement without taking upon themselves the right to be hegemonists in this movement. In this context the conference emphasized that Communists must more tightly unite their ranks and underlined the importance of all Communist and workers parties having a joint platform and common goals. [end recording]

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD091933 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 9 Dec 84

["International Observers Roundtable" program, with Gennadiy Ivanovich Gerasimov, editor in chief of MOSKOVSKIYA NOVOSTI; Nikolay Ivanovich Yefimov, first deputy editor in chief of IZVESTIYA; and Vitaliy Sergeyevich Sobolev, All-Union Radio commentator]

Warsaw Pact Ministers Meeting

[Text] [Sobolev] Hello, comrades! This week in Berlin there was a meeting of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers' Committee. Its results showed once again that the allied socialist countries are making active efforts to remove the threat of nuclear war and advocate the search, through talks, for solutions that will lead to an ending of the arms race, a radical arms reduction, and the return of relations between states to the course of detente, cooperation, and peaceful coexistence. Assessing the results of the committee's meeting, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo stressed the importance of the coordination of action by the Warsaw Pact member-states to consistently implement their line aimed at substantially improving the situation in Europe and international relations as a whole, and at further strengthening the unity and cohesion of the countries of the socialist community.

[Gerasimov] Meetings like the one that took place in Berlin are traditional at the end of the year, to a certain extent summing up the results of the year. These results were not very consoling, because the participants in the meeting expressed alarm over the dangerous tension that remains in Europe and in the world as a whole. Also at the end of the year there are meetings of various bodies of the Atlantic bloc. In Brussels there was a meeting of the NATO military planning committee. Quite often, observers compare the meetings of this kind, and what is there one can say now? The meeting of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers' Committee in Berlin again reiterated the peace-loving proposals by the Warsaw Pact countries: for example, that nuclear weapons be frozen; that the other side also assume the pledge to make no first use of nuclear weapons; or to come to an agreement that there should be no militarization of space.

As far as the NATO military planning committee which met in the Belgian capital is concerned, they were engaged in exclusively military-technical things. They approved the so-called Rogers Plan, named after the commander of the NATO armed forces in Europe, U.S. General Rogers. This is a plan to create various military novelties for carrying out strikes deep behind enemy lines. These, it is stressed, are preemptive strikes which is, of course, a very dangerous scheme -- in effect the concept of a preventive war and dealing the first strike. The same old line is being pursued for a buildup not only of nuclear arms, but this time also conventional ones, or rather, I would say, not conventional but the latest types of weaponry, to be built up in Europe.

[Sobolev] Gennadiy Ivanovich, numerous commentaries have been published abroad about the communique of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers' Committee meeting, and they stress that the participants in the committee meeting welcomed the Soviet proposal and the accords reached on the basis of that proposal for the USSR and the United States to hold talks on the whole range of questions relating to nuclear and space weapons. Of primary importance now, as Comrade Chernenko stressed in his reply to the message by the movement World Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, is the solution of the question of space weapons.

Chernenko Reply to Physicians

[Yefimov] The reply by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko evoked a wide response abroad, and particularly in the United States. Here it is indicative what the newspapers, television, and the physicians themselves are drawing attention to, and what it is in the Soviet stance on questions of war and peace that seems to be of particular importance to them and worthy of attention. The well-known U.S. physician Pastore, a representative of the movement World Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, said that a particularly strong impression was made on him by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's expression in his message of agreement with the opinion of the world's physicians that a nuclear war, if it were to break out, would become the last epidemic whose scale is impossible to exaggerate. Why is this thought, of incontestable truth for millions of our listeners, seen so acutely abroad? Last summer, people of learning from the Institute for the Study of Problems of Peace at Sheffield University in Britain told me that unfortunately in the West there are no small number of politicians, including state leaders, who think that nuclear war is in fact not so terrible and that it will undoubtedly be possible to limit it and control its course and scale. What nurtures this naive idea or, as Comrade Chernenko noted in his reply, these nuclear illusions? Whatever nurtures it, be it elementary ignorance of the nature of nuclear weapons, outmoded thinking, or the lunatic thirsting after military superiority, it cannot be either accepted or justified. I cannot help recalling for our listeners that at our 26th party congress the Soviet Union proposed that an authoritative international committee comprising very prominent men of learning from various countries be set up to show the vital need to prevent a nuclear catastrophe. Neither the United States nor the other Western countries accepted that proposal. Meanwhile, life has shown how important and necessary this is. Before World War II, probably everyone knew the weapons that existed in the arsenals at that time and had an idea of what a war would be like in the future, of its danger and consequences.

[Gerasimov] Although they did not have a complete idea.

[Yefimov] Well, nevertheless, they had a better idea then, because things are different now. The forces of science and engineering have created such sophisticated and complex types of weapons, so fundamentally new, that not even an expert can imagine their destructive might and the consequences both direct and those remote in time, of their use. Thus, all of this is often quite difficult to imagine. That is why the opinion of experts and authoritative men of learning is so important and weighty. Although Western leaders did not support the Soviet proposal then, men of learning in many countries, including academies of sciences, showed alarm and concern. It was this alarm that gave rise to the formation of the international movement World Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, in which there are now more than 100,000 doctors. The second thing that people abroad are drawing attention to is the Soviet Union's readiness to take the most radical decisions to ban, and ultimately completely eliminate nuclear weapons. The Soviet Union's understanding of the danger threatening peace and its readiness to go halfway to reach agreement are undoubtedly in accordance with the feelings and mood of not only our own people, but also those of other countries. Indicative in this respect was a recent U.S. public opinion poll which showed that 89 out of 98 Americans agreed that there would be no winners in a nuclear war; and 83 out of 96 were of the opinion that the catastrophe in the event nuclear weapons were used would be far from limited to some type of local, or in the language of the Washington strategists, "limited" war; it would be universal. In the latest edition of IZVESTIYA, political observer Stanislav Kondrashov noted that judging by the poll, the American people are more peace-loving than their leaders.

Space Militarization

[Gerasimov] A State Department spokesman said on Wednesday that the Soviet side is stressing the urgent need to limit space weapons.

That is how he put it. However, it is inaccurate: We are speaking about the impermissibility of the militarization of space. However, the U.S. side, this State Department spokesman said, believes the most important problem is a different one: namely, the reduction of existing nuclear weapons. Well, what does this mean? What is the difference in priorities? It is this. Naturally the Soviet side also favors reducing existing nuclear weapons, but what is of primary importance now is solving the question of space weapons, because if no barrier is placed in the way of the militarization of space, it will cancel out everything that has thus far been possible in the sphere of limiting strategic offensive weapons. Why is this so? It is a matter of the so-called U.S. strategic initiative in the defense field or, as journalists term it, the concept of "star wars." To put it in military technical language, it is a matter of the creation of an antimissile defense system with space-based elements. President Reagan is of the opinion that this is a way of inventing weapons that will render missiles obsolete, thus making it possible, so they believe, of saving America, its allies, and even the whole world from the nuclear threat. Well, to those with boundless faith in America's good intensions, if there are any such people, a technical response to the nuclear threat might seem almost a step toward peace. However, in a true context of strategic confrontation, this so-called strategic defense initiative destabilizes the situation. I will try to explain this in a few words. The Soviet Union and the United States signed an open-ended treaty on the limitation of antimissile defense systems in 1972. This treaty assisted in reaching an accord on limiting strategic offensive weapons. Why? Because the sides agreed to acknowledge mutual vulnerability. They agreed to limit their antimissile defense systems. Therefore, if one of them starts to lay claim to invulnerability, then the other will have to implement measures to remove those claims. As a result, a buildup rather than a limiting of nuclear weapons will take place. The sides' observance of the antimissile defense treaty, thereby not allowing the militarization of space, is a necessary prerequisite for an accord on limiting strategic offensive weapons.

This correlation is acknowledged by many American experts. Many articles are currently being published in America on this subject. It is also acknowledged by the public, which has created an organization in America called the 'Movement to Save the Treaty on Limiting Antimissile Defense Systems.' This same question was discussed last week in Chicago, where an independent commission met on questions of disarmament and security, the so-called Palme Commission. This is an international commission with Palme as its chairman. There are scientific representatives of many countries there, including the Soviet Union. This commission published a detailed comprehensive report 2 years ago demonstrating that in the nuclear age, security cannot be ensured at a national level, or at the level of blocs, through military alliances. Only joint overall security is possible based upon cooperation, and not one-sided technical approaches, that is, the very same approaches that we now observe in Washington. In other words, security not in search of new, even more intricate, accurate, terrible, and expensive weapons systems, but security with the acknowledgement of common responsibility for limiting and reducing weapons. In particular, in the statement adopted in Chicago, an appraisal is given of the American plan to create an antimissile defense system: It says that this is a fanciful dream playing a destabilizing role in the political field. Thus, we are talking about one very dangerous American undertaking.

Rogers Plan

[Sobolev] Approximately the same thing can be said about another military program that the Americans are proposing: the same Rogers Plan that you have mentioned, Gennadiy Ivanovich. Its authors claim that it will lead to a lowering of the nuclear threshold; that is, it should reduce the probability of the use of nuclear weapons in Europe in the event of...

[Gerasimov interrupting] Yes, yes, indeed....

[Sobolev interrupting to complete sentence]...military conflict.

[Gerasimov] I would also like to draw attention to this quite distorted logic, according to which -- insofar as nuclear war in Europe threatens a continent of smoldering ash[illegible] - they in NATO are devising the following side-stepping movement, or zigzag: Let us, supposedly, strengthen coventional armed forces to wage war without nuclear weapons. To all intents and purposes, this is how it comes about.

[Yefimov] In this, Gennadiy Ivanovich, they are keeping one matter hushed up: With this highly accurate and very long-range conventional weaponry, it is possible to attack Soviet nuclear missiles.

[Sobolev] In addition, this conventional weaponry will now come closer and closer to weapons of mass destruction in its destructible force. However, nonetheless, if we follow the U.S. logic we arrive at the following question: Cannot the United States now review its position regarding the non-first use of nuclear weapons? Earlier it refused to follow the Soviet Union's example and assume such an obligation under the pretext, so they said, that the Warsaw Pact has significant superiority over NATO in Europe in terms of conventional weapons, although it has been proven with figures and facts on many occasions that this is not the case, that in conventional weapons, too, there exists an approximate parity. However, now, according to the scheme of the Rogers Plan's authors, it should ensure NATO a sprint forward in terms of conventional weapons themselves. Perhaps now, changes have appeared in Washington, in its policy.

[Gerasimov] No.

U.S. Foreign Policy

[Sobolev] This question was raised at a news conference to official White House spokesman Speakes. The question: Do you consider, insofar as the overwhelming majority of world states favor the Soviet initiative, which has already been unilaterally implemented [sentence not completed].

Recently at the United Nations in the first committee, there was another vote on this issue; not only did socialist and developing countries vote in favor, but also a NATO member-country, Greece, and Ireland, a Common Market member. Obviously, for this reason, Speakes tried to avoid giving an answer, repeating in various ways that, I will quote him: We, that is, the United States, will never be the first to use any types of weapons. I will not try to enumerate here the occasions when the United States did use weapons, and did so first. There is no end to them. Not for the first time did we hear words that are very far from the truth from official and highly-placed U.S. figures. However this time Speakes was truly too inaccurate. He also stated that the American invasion of Grenada -- incidentally, was it not the United States that was the first to resort to weapons in that case? He said that the invasion of Grenada took place at the request of Grenada's Government. Even Governor Scoon, and he has not governed anything on Grenada for a long time, but he even represented the British queen on Grenada, and Britain publicly expressed its disapproval of the American intervention. Can they have forgotten this so quickly in Washington? From Scoon's own words, it is known that up to the time of the intervention he asked no one to invade. Finally, Speakes, at the same news conference, completely denied that the United States in any way took part in the preparation and organization of Grenada's elections. It cannot be that they do not at least read American newspapers in the White House. Americans newspapers do not feel the need for secrecy regarding where U.S. sympathies lie and how they put those people who were to their liking into power, what sums were spent, what people were involved in this; how indeed, American soldiers and the soldiers of puppet Caribbean regimes who were invited there maintained order.

U.S. Anti-Sandinist Stand

[Yefimov] In the world press, including ours, much has been reported about secret CIA instructions, about the peculiar manual for counterrevolutionaries that clearly laid out how to overthrow people's power in Nicaragua, how to physically destroy its leaders, and how to carry out sabotage and subversion. The blame, when the scandal broke out, was heaped, as was to be expected, on the little men, on six ordinary CIA workers, who compiled the manual and distributed it at their own initiative and without the knowledge of their superiors. They took the little men to task and punished them lightly. Now a permanent special commission of the United States House of Representatives has delivered its verdict. On one hand it has admitted that the instructions are nothing other than a manual on how to liquidate the Sandinist government. It has admitted, and also refuted the lie of the White House, the CIA, and other U.S. departments, that White House support for anti-Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries is supposedly not directed at overthrowing the government of that country. However, this is just one side. On the other side everything remains as before. The real culprits have not been named and naturally have not been punished. CIA Director Casey remains at the wheel and the White House has even announced that it will again demand allocations from Congress for supporting the enemies of the Nicaraguan people.

[Gerasimov] This is rather like international piracy.

[Yefimov] Gennadiy Ivanovich, this is state terrorism.

[Gerasimov] Incidentally, it is rather costly for Nicaragua, not to mention the fact that lives are being lost there as well. It is reported by the Nicaraguan Institute of Social Security and Welfare that 7,000 people have died, 20 village schools have been destroyed, 170 teachers have been killed, the construction of 30 education establishments has been interrupted during these 48 months of American aggression. The Americans are trying to every way to prevent the Nicaraguan people from building a new life, and generally want to destroy that regime which, you see, they do not like.

Situation in Chile

[Sobolev] The United States has now found itself with yet another difficult concern of approximately the same type; namely, how to prevent -- this is how the American press quotes an administration spokesman -- of how to prevent Chile from being turned into a new Nicaragua. The U.S. leaders are watching with alarm the way in which the scale of the Chileans' demonstrations against the dictatorship are growing. Pinochet, too, is frightened, and has threatened to repeat 11 September, that is to say, repressions on the same scale as those during the days of the fascist coup. He truly has started to repeat them. He intends to call up 160,000 reservists, which means increasing the Army's strength by a factor of three because he evidently fears that with its present composition -- which has already been increased during the years of dictatorships -- this Army will not cope with the people's actions. Naturally, there are those in the Army who are dissatified with the dictatorship as well, but the dictator keeps those at the top in the Army happy and discipline there is observed traditionally. However, practically all of the civil population is against Pinochet. I am not speaking just about the working people, one third of whom have no work, and who have received no increase in wages since 1981, and that against a background of Chilean inflation, but the bourgeoisie, also has serious complaints against the dictator. Take the bankruptcy statistics. In 1977, 228 companies failed; in 1980 there were 427; and in 1982 it reached 800. Production is falling, plantings are being reduced, and only the very major capitalists are unaffected by this. Chile had to pay $3.5 billion -- more than its entire income from exports -- last year in interest on its external debt alone. To ease Pinochet's position, Washington gave emergency orders that the dictator be given $125 million.

Of course, that type of patching up is insufficient to stop up the bottomless barrel of the ravaged Chilean economy, which was ravaged as a result of American recommendations. The main one of these was that doors should be more widely opened to foreign capital.

Bhopal Gas Leak

The world press has now once again started to talk about the multinational monopolies with the most passionate attention. You will remember that 7,000 people died not long ago through the fault of the multinational Dow Chemical Company when poisonous substances were dispersed in the Brazilian Amazon. Specialists believe that the lives of 60,000 more people are still threatened because the sources of their drinking water have been poisoned. Of course, you have heard of the criminal negligence of another multinational company, Union Carbidge, in India, where the count of victims is also running in the thousands and even in the tens of thousands.

[Yefimov] It is not just in India: The public in many countries has been shaken by what happened on the evening of 4 December in Bhopal in the State of Madhya Pradesh. As a result of a lethal gas leak from storage facilities at the Union Carbide works, more than 50,000 people have become casualties according to the latest figures. Furthermore, new victims are being added daily to this sad figure. As of today, more than 2,500 people have already died; 20,000 have either gone blind or are going blind; and tens of thousands are threatened by serious lung and other diseases. A correspondent of the Indian newspaper THE HINDUSTAN TIMES saw the following: The local hospital is filled with thousands of people. Thousands of people who had lost their sight in Bhopal were walking alongside fences and houses, clinging to the walls and holding onto each other as they made their way to the hospital. So many died that India's traditional rite of cremating the dead has been given up in the town. There are not enough pyres, and thus they are digging common graves. In the districts closest to the works, whole generations have been completely destroyed, adults, the elderly, children. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi interrupted his election campaign and visited Bhopal: He has stated that the government will take the most urgent measures to aid the victims, and that it will take it upon itself to care for the children who have been orphaned. What, indeed, happened? Why did this happen, which according to many foreign specialists is history's major industrial accident? The first results of the investigations indicate that the blame lies with the Union Carbide company, which failed to ensure an appropriate safety system. The corporation's leaders in the United States have admitted in the press that they were not certain that the security measures complied with at similar enterprises in the United States were observed in India. In the case in question, the dual approach of the American entrepreneurs has been in operation. The Indian Government has sent a special commission to Bhopal to carry out an investigation. Indian police arrested Anderson, the president of the board of directors of that American corporation, and others accompanying him, in Bhopal 2 days ago; they are all accused of criminal negligence. Naturally, negligence is there.

However, the tragedy in this Indian town is in no way simply one of criminal negligence alone. No matter how horrific, no matter how great the Bhopal disaster, it is merely a part of a serious international problem. The multinational monopolies long ago set off on the dangerous course of exporting those harmful chemical products to the developing countries which have been banned in the parent countries, but which are, nevertheless, advantageous to sell. Moreover, they not only export the products, they transfer entire production facilities to the developing countries that are dangerous, harmful, and pollute the atmosphere and water. Let this be as far from their own territory as possible. Let the populations of other countries pay the price for this, and a multiple advantage is obtained for the multinational companies: cheap raw materials, cheap labor, and no expenditure -- or virtually no expenditure -- on measures to combat environmental pollution. If one ponders the essence of the problem, there is a real offensive taking place upon the sovereignty of the developing countries.

[Gerasimov] Multinational corporations have always had this dual standard.

Worldwide Economics

[Sobolev] To conclude our program, comrades, I would like to turn to the subject of economics. There has been a great deal of material on this topic during the past week. A summit conference of the Common Market countries has taken place in Dublin. As usual, this conference passed off in an atmosphere of contradiction, insofar as the interests of the partners, naturally, are diverse. Furthermore, there was the question of admitting Spain and Portugal, whose products will squeeze the goods of the other south European countries within the community's framework. This issue remained unresolved. Another substantial problem discussed in Dublin was unemployment which is growing in the Common Market countries. The forecasts for the future in this area bring no comfort. Eleven percent of the work-capable population of the "Ten" are now without work, as are one in four of young people. Here are the dynamics of this problem's aggravation in the developed capitalist world. There were 8 million registered jobless in 1970, 20 million in 1980, and 35 million this year. The specialists expect that this will continue in the same way until the end of the century. Finally, the budgets of the Western countries are also causing headaches, so to speak, in the ruling circles of the capitalist states. Military spending is being increased, and even without this, the treasuries are not making ends meet. The United States, the West's major country, also has the largest budget deficit.

[Gerasimov] However, the United States has long been living in debt, particularly so under President Reagan, because the treasury of the Reagan administration is spending much more money than it is receiving from the population through taxation.

[Sobolev] This year it was one-third more.

[Gerasimov] There you are, then. As a result, it turns out that the state budget's deficit now amounts to $210 billion. This means that the government has to borrow money, that the United States is living in debt. However, it is impossible to live on debt forever, and the Reagan administration now considers that its prime task in domestic policy is to reduce this huge budget deficit in some way.

[Sobolev] A new draft budget for the new 1986 financial year -- which begins next October -- is now being discussed in the United States. American financial experts are trying to solve the mindbending task of reducing the deficit in part through a tax reform. However, the specialists who have studied this tax reform -- it is set out in several hundred pages -- believe, in the first place, that it is very complicated, and, in the second place, that it will not provide any more money. The corporations' share in the budget remains traditionally small, and indeed this share is constantly being reduced. In 1950, taxes on the monopolies' profits accounted for a quarter of the budget's income. This now provides only 6 percent. Thus now, as usual, it is intended to reduce expenditure by cutting assistance to those poor who cannot pay for their own treatment, by cutting the pay of state employees, and by cutting spending on pensions. Some social expenditure items will be eliminated altogether. It is also envisaged that the Department of Education will be abolished completely. This is an old idea of the President's. Perhaps everything is truly excellent with Americans regarding education. Writing in this connection, THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR has this to say: 74 million adult Americans are either partially or completely illiterate. One in five American adults have difficulty reading. The expenditure envisaged in the budget for eliminating illiteracy is very small, so that here, too, no great savings are foreseen. The economic problems are also currently being discussed in the socialist countries. These problems are quite complicated; however, the plans for the national economy's development in the coming year, which are now being adopted by the supreme legislative organs in the countries of socialism, provide for stable production growth in industry and agriculture and an upsurge in the population's standard of living.

Our friends intend to achieve this, mainly thanks to an improvement in efficiency and quality; the utilization of achievements of the scientific and technical revolution; the further improvement of the economic mechanism; and, of course, socialist economic integration. Economic links within the socialist community are gaining in strength. A session of the CEMA Committee on Scientific and Technical Cooperation took place in Moscow at the end of this week. It discussed a draft integrated program for scientific and technical progress of CEMA member-countries covering a 15- to 20-year period. Implementation of the decisions of the June economic summit conference of CEMA continues. These unanimously adopted decisions will, as Comrade Chernenko noted in his address to the Bulgarian readers of the collection of his speeches and articles, encourage the fraternal countries' further social and economic development and the arrival of a qualitatively new stage in economic cooperation and socialist integration. We end our program at this point. Thank you for your attention, comrades. All the best to you.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS'

LD072133 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 7 Dec 84

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by Pavel Kasparov, All-Union Radio foreign policy commentator; with Yuriy Kharlanov, PRAVDA international observer; Oleg Shirokov, TASS international observer; and Yuriy Vybornov, All-Union Radio correspondent in Rome]

NATO's Rogers Plan

[Excerpts] [Kasparov] Engineer Viktor Nikolayevich Remizov from Moscow asks us to explain the so-called Rogers Plan, which dominated this week's winter session of the NATO Council. I have asked Yuriy Kharlanov, PRAVDA international observer, to answer this question.

[Kharlanov] The Rogers Plan is named after an American general, the commander in chief of NATO forces in Europe. More than 2 years ago, the Pentagon instructed him to draw up a program for rearming the forces of that military bloc with new, high technology weapons, as the Western press puts it, and systems of conventional weaponry, and present it for discussion to the United States' NATO allies. These weapons would entail a reexamination of certain strategic and tactical doctrines of the NATO military machine. On 9 November this year, the NATO military planning committee, to which representatives of the general staffs of 14 countries of the bloc belong, approved this new program and doctrines. It has now been officially named FOFA from the first letters of the English words follow-on forces attack. Naturally, the words follow-on forces refer to the second echelon of the potential enemy, considered by NATO to be the Soviet Union and the other socialist states belonging to the Warsaw Pact. It is already clear from the name that this involves waging combat operations far inside the territory of the socialist countries. These blows against follow-on forces will be inflicted from bases situated in West Germany and other West European NATO countries, using systems of conventional weapons whose strike power is comparable with mass-destruction nuclear weapons. As General Lamberto Bartolucci, chief of the Italian General Staff, who, due to his position, was one of the first people to be informed of the contents of the Rogers Plan, frankly stated: The best defense is offense.

Here is how the content of the Rogers Plan is described by the influential West German newspaper FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE. U.S. experts call this a well thought-out sequence for waging combat operations in a combined air-land battle. They have given this concept the name: Infliction of an In-Depth Strike. Precision weapons, smart projectiles, and electronic intelligence systems can provide NATO's operational formations with the ability to destroy a potential enemy in the actual area where he is grouping for operations.

Missiles like the Pershing II and cruise missiles, and the multirole Tornado aircraft are the systems that can penetrate deep inside enemy territory.

In this long quotation, I ask you to take note of the words air-land battle. This is not just a description of what might happen, but a reference to an official Pentagon document that has been named, Air-land Battle, that is, fighting on land and in the air. It is already some years since this document became a guide for the U.S. Armed Forces together with the new Army field regulations. So, the Rogers Plan is an attempt to transfer to the West European theater new U.S. strategic and tactical concepts which boil down to the phrase: The best defense is offense, which Gen Bartolucci let slip so carelessly.

However, the Air-Land Battle doctrine, in turn, is also only one component in the policy followed throughout recent years by the U.S. Administration, which aims to achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union and to prepare for so-called limited, protracted, and other nuclear wars.

The FOFA doctrine, as the Rogers Plan is now known, appears especially sinister against the background of Reagan's star wars program, the plans to set up an antimissile shield in space, behind which the United States intends to take refuge in the event of a world conflict, restricting the nuclear Armageddon to the territory of Europe. All recent events demonstrate, the West German paper UNSERE ZEIT writes, that the United States is preparing for a nuclear war from which it hopes to emerge unscathed while Europe is complete destroyed. Indeed, what an attractive prospect this is for the U.S. militarists! To sit under the umbrella of antimissile defenses in space while NATO forces in Europe, in accordance with the Rogers Plan, first try to destroy enemy forces with highly technical conventional weapons, and then, if this fails, with the aid of medium-range nuclear weapons and tactical nuclear weapons.

Without doubt these plans are unrealistic, but their very existence is evidence that Washington is weighing the options, such as sacrificing the life of its allies, like pawns on a chessboard, in order to realize wild plans of U.S. world supremacy.

This could not fail to alarm and anger many people -- very many people -- in West Europe. The French paper L'HUMANITE has called the Rogers Plan a scenario for a nuclear war restricted to the territory of Europe. The British Labor MP, Ann Clwyd, has appraised it as a blitzkrieg strategy. She and other Labor MP's have also voiced indignation at the British Government's intention to pay colossal sums to implement such suicidal schemes, while spending on social needs are being cut in the country. It is a question of truly colossal expense. LE MONDE has calculated that the acquisiton of new missile systems envisaged in the Rogers Plan alone will cost no less than $33 billion, in addition to the military expenditure that the United States has already imposed on its NATO allies.

Of course, not only in the United States, but also in West Europe, there are forces interested in implementing these plans, which are incredibly costly and extremely dangerous to the cause of peace, because a few crumbs of the $33 billion cake of military contracts envisaged by the Rogers Plan will fall to the military-industrial monopolies of the FRG, Britian, and other countries.

However, this only brings heightened international tension, to the peoples of West Europe and the whole world, and an acceleration of the world's slide toward the brink of nuclear disaster. This is why all peace-loving forces on earth are protesting against the buildup of conventional and nuclear weapons and support the truly constructive proposals made by the USSR aimed at preserving world peace and returning to a policy of detente.

Rapid Deployment Forces

[Kasparov] Our regular listeners, war and labor veteran Yakov Tikhonovich Makarov from the village of Krivozerye in Penza Oblast, and Aleksandr Mikhaylovich Aganin from the village of (Dzherzhinsk) in Gorkiy Oblast, and many others, ask us to explain what the Rapid Deployment Force set up in the West is, and what it is for.

It is customary to regard 1 March 1980 as the official birthday of the Rapid Deployment Force.

The Fact that Britain, France, and Italy, following the example of their transatlantic partner, have now set about creating rapid deployment forces as well, also awakens fear among peace-loving forces. Their steps in this direction are also accompanied by talk of the supposed need to guard their interests in regions of the world that are of vital interest to these countries. Here it is curious to note that those regions precisely coincide with the former colonial possessions of London, Paris, and Rome. Furthermore, NATO strategists have also begun to devote increasing attention to plans to use corps from the rapid deployment forces, as well they might because they have on hand, as they say, thoroughly mobilized, specially trained, many-thousand-strong intervention forces, ready to join battle at short notice in any corner of the globe, above all in Europe.

All this goes to show that in setting up rapid deployment forces, the Western countries, and above all the United States, are using them not only for tasks of a neocolonialist nature in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, but also for well-defined tasks in the field of direct confrontation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, both on a regional and a global scale. Such a conception also clearly shows that the rapid deployment forces, to whose creation great importance is now being attached in the West, are nothing more than weapons of aggression and international terrorism on the planet.

SOLTON CONTRASTS NATO, WARSAW PACT POLICIES

LD072115 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Yuriy Solton commentary]

I'd like to draw your attention to the following events: the conference in Berlin and Budapest involving foreign ministers and defense ministers of the socialist Warsaw Treaty countries and the meetings in Brussels involving leaders of the NATO bloc. Both alliances expressed deep concern at the dangerous turn of events on the world scene, and both considered ways of strengthening international security. First let's see what the socialist countries proposed.

They proposed talks, talks that would make it possible to resove problems of disarmament, to restore trust between countries and to return to the policy of easing tension. To substantiate their peaceable intentions they have put forward proposals based on the obvious principle of equality and equal security. The socialist nations believe that the USSR and the United States could already today freeze their nuclear arsenals in terms of both quality and quantity, thereby setting an example (?for all) others to follow. Likewise they could complete the framing of an agreement to ban all nuclear tests and come to terms regarding such matters as outlawing weapons from space, banning chemical weapons, and reducing military budgets.

Needless to say, mutual confidence would strengthen and the (?then) possibility of war breaking out would disappear if the United States followed the Soviet example and pledged not to be the first to use nuclear arms.

The Warsaw Treaty countries have again urged the American Administration to do so. Furthermore, they confirmed their proposal to the NATO countries for concluding a treaty that would ban the use of military force and help maintain relations of peace, and they expressed readiness to start businesslike talks at once to discuss all these and the counterproposals advanced by the other side. Now let's see what was going on in Brussels.

The NATO countries, spurred on by Washington, have made it clear that they see the future in military buildup aimed at gaining them unilateral military advantages. They plan to continue a rapid deployment of American first strike nuclear missiles in Western Europe. They decided to sharply increase their stocks of conventional arms and to develop and deploy weapons that come close to nuclear ones in their destructive potential. They approved what is known as the Rogers doctrine, which provides for striking deep at the socialist countries' rear, and they want to increase their military spending again, and there are two more facts to which I want to draw your attention.

Shortly before the NATO meetings in Brussels began, the White House decided to set up a joint space command of the United States Armed Forces. Later on a high ranking official in Washington confirmed that the United States reserved the right to be the first to use nuclear arms.

Now, judge for yourself which of the two chosen paths really leads to stronger international security and which one brings closer what scientists call a nuclear epidemic, capable of destroying man as a biological species, and turning the planet to ashes.

USSR'S UN ENVOY CONDEMNS 'STATE TERRORISM'

PM071351 Moscow IZVESTIYA In Russian 6 Dec 84 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Soldatov dispatch:"United Nations: Denouncing State Terrorism"]

[Text] New York -- The UN General Assembly First Committee (political questions and questions of security, including disarmament) has started discussing resolutions aimed at strengthening international security. There are four such proposals. They include the Soviet initiative "On the Inadmissibility of the Policy of State Terrorism or Any Other Actions by States Aimed at Undermining the Sociopolitical System in Other Sovereign States."

The new Soviet initiative reflects the mood of most member-states of this international organization. In the course of the general political debate and during the discussion in committees of disarmament problems and the situation in various parts of the world, many countries' representatives expressed alarm in connection with the multiplying cases of interference in the internal affairs of sovereign states with the aim of destabilizing their governments and forcibly changing their sociopolitical systems.

It was pointed out during the debate that the acts of state terrorism perpetrated by the United States against Nicaragua show how dangerous such practices are. No less dangerous are the aggressive actions of Israel, which is depriving the Palestinian people of their right to independence and the establishment of their own state, speeches at the session stressed. A serious danger to world peace and security is posed by the actions of the Pretoria regime, which conducts military operations against independent African countries and is depriving the people of Namibia of their right to self-determination.

In the modern world, overcrowded with destructive weapons, including nuclear weapons, the policy of state terrorism poses a threat not just to individual countries but to all mankind, O.A. Troyanovskiy, the USSR's permanent representative at the United Nations, declared.

The Soviet Union has condemned and continues to condemn all manifestations of terrorism. It resolutely rejects the policy of states that use terrorism as a method of conducting their affairs with other states and peoples. Such a policy is essentially an attempt to deprive peoples of their inalienable rights to free self-determination, the independent choice of their own political and economic system, and their independent political, economic, social, and cultural development.

All the concepts and doctrines, occasionally proclaimed from a lofty rostrum, which seek to bring about or encourage states' actions aimed at undermining the sociopolitical systems of other states must be categorically rejected, O.A. Troyanovskiy continued. Attempts to justify a policy of state terrorism by branding states that pursue an independent policy and peoples fighting for their independence or by launching slander campaigns against various states, should also be condemned.

The pursuit of a policy of state terrorism with respect to other states and peoples destroys the very possibility of ensuring peaceful relations and mutual trust between countries, increases the threat of war, and is a mockery of international norms of conduct.

In the current tense international situation, the Soviet representative noted, it is the United Nations' duty to raise its voice in behalf of the observance of international law, and against the violation of elementary norms of states' conduct.

MARCHUK RECEIVES HUNGARIAN, JAPANESE GUESTS

PM070941 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Dec 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the "Official Announcements" rubric: "Cooperation Questions Discussed"]

[Text] G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, received L. Pal, chairman of the Hungarian National Science Policy Committee, on 4 December.

Questions of the further development of scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Hungary on a bilateral basis and within the CEMA framework were discussed in light of accords reached at the CEMA countries' economic summit conference.

On the same day, G.I. Marchuk received T. Yahiro, president of the Mitsui company, and a group of Japanese company directors visiting Moscow with the aim of extending the term of the agreement on scientific and technical cooperation between the State Committee for Science and Technology and the Japanese Mitsui company.

TASS REPORTS REAGAN PRESS CONFERENCE REMARKS

LD081317 Moscow TASS in English 1305 GMT 8 Dec 84

[Text] Washington December 8 TASS - President Ronald Reagan of the United States has held a press conference during which he touched upon some foreign-policy problems.

Reagan stated, in particular, that he does not intend to give up the programme for the construction of the MX first-strike intercontinental ballistic missiles the elimination of which the public and Congress of the United States demand more and more insistently. He asserted that the programme is ostensibly "essential" to the United States.

As is known, the plans for the development and deployment of a hundred MX missiles each of which is fitted out with ten warheads are the pivot of the "Rearmament of America" programme which is aimed at achieving one-sided military superiority over the Soviet Union. According to expert data, the MX programme will cost several tens of billions of dollars while the entire "Rearmament of America" programme which is intended for a period of several years will cost more than 2,000,000 million dollars.

This stance of the U.S. President, as observers note, raises the question of sincerity of the U.S. leadership's assurances of late as to readiness to seek progress in the cause of nuclear arms limitation at new talks with the Soviet Union, as well as of the statement by Reagan himself that he wants to secure the elimination of nuclear weapons.

President Reagan was asked a good deal of questions about the U.S. policy in the south of Africa where Washington, as is known, gives every kind of support and aid to the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa. Reagan was reminded that South African Bishop Desmond Tutu, Nobel Peace Prize winner, after meeting him at the White House told journalists that the policy of the White House has worsened the position of the indigenous population of the Republic of South Africa. "Would you, at this point, consider changing your policies, and consider, at least, the idea of economic sanctions or of some harsher measures against the regime there?" Reagan evaded a direct answer, laying emphasis on the fact that Washington ostensibly has made sizeable progress "in pursuading the South African Government to make changes" by means of "quiet diplomacy". "We are going to continue with that policy", he emphasized. But the regime in the Republic of South Africa becomes more repressive and the number of arrests in the country grows.

"...The regime has become more repressive and the arrests have increased...Do you feel that your policies have, at all, given credibility to that regime?" In answer to this question Reagan voiced regret over a surge of violence in the Republic of South Africa but immediately confirmed again that the U.S. Administration is going to continue with its policy.

"...A lot of people might be wondering how the United States can justify dealing with a nation that does not recognize something so basic as the concept of racial equality", the President was asked. Reagan admitted in point of fact that there can be no justification for such policy but nonetheless he again tried to justify such stand by considerations of "quiet diplomacy". "I have always believed", he stated, "that it is counterproductive for one country to splash itself all over the headlines, demanding that another government do something because that other government then is put in an almost impossible position: It can't appear to be rolling over the demands of outsiders".

Reagan in every way tried to justify U.S. wide business contacts with the Republic of South Africa by stating demagogically that protests against such cooperation are "based on ignorance".

Contrary to the generally known facts, he tried to prove that the U.S. "constructive engagement" with the world's most man-hating regime has ostensibly led to certain "progress" in the position of the oppressed indigenous population of the Republic of South Africa and asserted that U.S. companies which operate in that country and which gain fabulous profits from the exploitation of cheap labour force perform almost a "civilizing mission". The policy with regard to the Republic of South Africa will hardly change -- this is how the ABC television network has summed up the President's pronouncements. ABC said that the USA maintains wide business contacts with the Republic of South Africa and that Washington would not like to lose them.

SHULTZ VIEWS USE OF FORCE ABROAD AS 'LEGITIMATE'

LD101236 Moscow TASS in English 1222 GMT 10 Dec 84

[Text] New York December 10 TASS -- Under the false pretext of "combating terrorism", the Reagan administration is seeking to impart a semblance of "legitimacy" to the attempts at destabilizing the situation in countries whose policy does not suit official Washington. This has been evidenced by the recent statement by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in New York City.

In fact, the whole speech by the head of the U.S. State Department was an attempt to prove the "necessity" to use military force against other nations. The secretary of state enumerated several situations in which, according to the White House, the use of force is legitimate. George Shultz bluntly declared that strength and diplomacy should always go hand in hand.

He portrayed the bandit aggression against Grenada, undertaken by the United States in autumn last year, as a "liberation mission" and left no doubt that the United States would carry out similar "missions" in the future.

According to Shultz, the administration preserves the "right" to conduct military operations against countries which it regards as "aggressors." The secretary of state named among the latter the Soviet Union, Cuba and Nicaragua. At the same time, as if forgetting that the entire world condemns Tel Aviv for its policy of state terrorism, he praised Israel as a model of a state which strives to combine law and justice with self preservation.

At a time when highly-placed administration officials prattle about adherence to the ideals of democracy had freedom, the U.S. Department of State is completing the shaping of a "new policy", the essence of which is consolidating the Reagan administration's course towards using force abroad. CBS television points out in this connection that the administration is close to making "retaliatory strikes" at the territory of other countries when, in its view, American interests are damaged there. Another American television network, the NBC, recalled the so-called "Shultz doctrine" set forth by the secretary of state in one of his latest speeches. Its essense is that U.S. troops be used for making "preventive" strikes at the territory of foreign states under the pretext of "preventing" terrorist actions.

SHULTZ TOUR OF WESTERN EUROPE PREVIEWED

LD101017 Moscow TASS in English 0817 GMT 10 Dec 84

[Text] Washington December 10 TASS -- TASS correspondent Mikhail Beglov reports:

The U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz is to set off today for a tour of a number of West European countries.

He plans to meet in London with British Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary Geoffrey Howe, to hold negotiations with leaders of the Belgian Government, to participate in the work of the NATO council's session at the level of foreign ministers and to attend a meeting of the Commission of European Communities. Before his return to the United States George Shultz intends to visit the FRG and to have a meeting with Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

As was reported by representatives of the administration, the main attention at the negotiations of the secretary of state will be paid to problems of East-West relations. George Shultz also intends to demand from the U.S. NATO partners that they should envigorate their participation in Washington's militaristic programes.

SELSKAYA ZHIZN VIEWS FEASIBILITY OF STOCKMAN PLAN

PM071145 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 4 Dec 84 p 3

[Vadim Biryukov "Commentator's Column": "Is the Stockman Plan Realistic?"]

[Text] Director of the Office of Management and Budget David Stockman has submitted to the U.S. President a plan for reducing the federal budget deficit which has now reached $1.75 trillion.

The basis of the plan, CBS television reports, is in reducing social programs for the middle strata of the population and also in freezing military spending. Only these measures, Stockman believes, will be able to reduce the federal budget deficit by fiscal 1988, if the White House intends to avoid increasing taxes.

The Office of Management and Budget's receipt, designed to balance the federal budget, seems highly naive when you consider specific steps by the administration in the last 4 years. Reagan was elected for a second term, in particular, as a result of the fact that the middle and wealthy sections of American society voted for him. The offensive against these strata is equivalent to the White House pulling the rug from under its own feet.

Year by year, the Reagan administration is increasing its military appropriations. It has started to implement virtually all the costly military programs Washington needed to secure unilateral superiority. So far there are no grounds for concluding that the White House intends to abandon this course. On the contrary, Caspar Weinberger's address at the National Press Club attests that the U.S. military is still hatching aggressive plans.

There are, on the one hand, the appetites of the U.S. monopolists and military, and, on the other, the increase in the federal budget deficit. These two factors are inextricably linked, and it is hardly likely that Washington will give the go-ahead to the Stockman plan. Rather, as has happened in past years, the "savings" will affect the social programs. THE NEW YORK TIMES believes that the next victims of the White House will be the farmers and the already stingy programs for urban development, education, and housing construction.

As for the 45 million Americans who live on the verge of poverty, the question of improving their situation is not even being raised!... So, is the Stockman plan realistic?

USSR AGRICULTURE MINISTER VISIT TO U.S. VIEWED

LD081340 Moscow TASS in English 1307 GMT 8 Dec 84

[Text] Washington December 8 TASS -- U.S. Secretary of Agriculture John Block said he was very glad that Soviet Agriculture Minister Valentin Mesyats had visited the United States.

He told a TASS correspondent that Mesyats and himself had reactivated the long-term agreement on trade in farm produce, which had been signed in Moscow last year, and shared the view that Soviet-American cooperation in commerce should and would grow further, facilitating at the same time broader Soviet-American cooperation in other fields. Block remarked, however, that economic relations had been and would of course be dependent on the general state of relations between the two countries but those relations were now slowly but steadily improving. He disclosed that the Soviet minister had invited him to visit the USSR next spring and that he had accepted the invitation with pleasure. Block said it would be very interesting to visit not only such cities as Moscow and Leningrad and their environs but also to make a tour of the Soviet Union, especially the Ukraine, and visit farms in outlying regions, as the Soviet minister had done in the United States.

As for general outlook for Soviet-American trade in all fields, the U.S. agriculture secretary repeated, it would depend on the general state of relations between the two countries.

OLIN: CONGRESS VERDICT ON CIA MANUAL 'TOO MILD'

LD072112 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Text] In the United States the House Committee on Intelligence has found the CIA guilty of violating American laws by printing a manual on terrorism for the anti-Nicaraguan contras. Here is a commentary by Viktor Olin:

The committee came to the conclusion that the publication violated what is known as Boland's amendment, which bans the use of budgetary resources to conduct operations aimed at toppling the Nicaraguan Government. The committee charged the CIA director, William Casey, with negligence in management over the compilation and spreading of the manual.

Still, the committee's findings appear too mild when compared with the CIA's recommendations outlined in the manual, which instructs the Nicaraguan contras to neutralize, that is to say to kill, democratic government officials and activists in Nicaragua, to enlist criminals to murder civilians and then present them as victims of communist terror, to practice widespread abductions, threats and blackmail in order to browbeat the people, create chaos and destabilize the situation in the country.

Approval of these methods for use against a sovereign state can only be classified as incitement of state-supported terrorism. This is proved by a report prepared for the Committee on Intelligence by the Center for Constitutional Rights. The report said that the CIA's manual violated United States law and also international law. By using it the contras had committed many crimes against the Nicaraguan people, the report charges. As for the CIA director, Casey, high-ranking officials in Washington have in effect admitted that the order to turn out the manual came direct from him. It has also been reported that the American ambassador to the United Nations, Jeane Kirkpatrick, lent a hand in preparing it.

All this refutes the official version claiming that the manual was compiled by low-ranking CIA officials whose activities Casey supposedly didn't notice. The charges brought against the CIA and its leaders by the House Committee essentially support the widespread opinion that, as THE NEW YORK TIMES has put it, the whole affair speaks volumes about the administration's disdain for law and even its own avowed policies.

In the meantime the contras are engaged in terror and subversion in Nicaragua in full accordance with the CIA instructions. On Monday they ambushed a group of volunteers on their way to help with coffee harvesting. Twenty-six of them including five women, were shot dead.

U.S. WAR GAMES HELD IN AREA RESEMBLING NICARAGUA

LD072041 Moscow TASS in English 1833 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Text] San Francisco December 7 TASS -- A military exercise, codenamed Kernel Usher 85-1, has started on California's Pacific coast in the Los Angeles area. More than 10,000 servicemen of the U.S. Navy and Marines Crops will be involved in the war games to last eleven days.

The landing of naval and airbourne troops will be the culmination of the manoeuvres. Twenty warships, including the strike aircraft-carrier Constellation, as well as many planes and helicopters will be involved.

California has since long been used by the Pentagon as a kind of proving ground for military interventions. Over 100,000 officers and men took part in exercises held on the territory of that major American state during the past year alone. Interventionist "Rapid Deployment Force" units and other terrorist formations, set up to suppress national liberation movements, had fought here fierce "battles" lasting several weeks. Preparations for invasions are in full swing at the military base of Twenty Nine Palms in the California Mojave Desert. More than 200,000 servicemen have been trained there since 1974. The landing of American troops in Grenada had been mastered at that base.

Washington views the current exercise as an important stage for preparing aggressive actions against sovereign states. Local observers point out that the Kernal Usher 85-1 exercise is being held over the locality similar to the Nicaraguan coast.

RESULTS OF DARTMOUTH CONFERENCE REPORTED

LD072301 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 7 Dec 84

[From the Vremya newscast; A. Druzhinin report]

[Text] A meeting of a working group of the Dartmouth conference to discuss the question of U.S.-USSR relations has ended in Washington. The meetings between Soviet and American men of learning and public figures, called the Dartmouth conferences, are a tradition that has been in existence for almost 25 years. They began in 1960, becoming an unofficial, nongovernmental forum for the discussion of important problems of relations between the Soviet Union and the United States. Since then, both during the period of relaxation of international tension and in the times when those relations worsened, the Dartmouth conferences have invariably provided an opportunity for useful dialogue and exchange of opinions among their participants.

[Begin video recording of U.S. delegation chief (Doty) in English with superimposed Russian translation] I have a particularly favorable impression of the meeting of the working group that has just ended, because it took place at a time when there is, I would say, a substantial change in the psychological climate in relations between our two countries. It is as yet difficult to say how events will develop further, but the difference between the atmosphere of this meeting and the previous one, which took place this March, is evident. [end recording]

[Begin video recording of Academician G.A. Arbatov, head of the Soviet delegation] Well, you know, first of all I would like to say that it was noticeable that the atmosphere, the mood, so to speak, has changed to a certain degree: Our previous meetings have been very tough and complex. This is, of course, connected with the fact that agreement has been reached for a meeting between Comrade Gromyko, USSR foreign minister, and Shultz, the U.S. secretary of state.

At the same time, though, I would like to say that all the participants -- and the American participants, too -- well understand that this is just the first small, modest step, and that the most important thing will take shape later: to realize the opportunity that this agreement opens up, very great efforts are needed, and also in general, I would say, a change in certain very important political aims and policy directions.

We spoke about this to our American colleagues -- that much I can say, although these are usually confidential meetings -- and we said that this is incompatible with a course aimed at achieving military superiority. [end recording]

ARKHIPOV RECEIVES PRC TRADE DELEGATION LEADER

OW080230 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0700 GMT 6 Dec 84

[Text] Comrade Arkhipov, first deputy chairman, of the USSR Council of Ministers, received Chen Jie, leader of the PRC Government trade delegation, in Moscow yesterday.

In their conversation, both sides expressed satisfaction at the steady increase of trade between the two countries and indicated that the two sides were striving to develop trade and economic relations between them.

TRUD NOTES INCREASED PRC INTEREST IN FOLK ART

PM061043 Moscow TRUD in Russian 1 Dec 84 p 3

[B. Piskunov report: "Exponents of Folk Art in the PRC"]

[Text] The applied arts of China are several thousand years' old. From generation to generation craftsmen have handed down the methods of carving on stone and bone, and the secrets of manufacturing porcelain, ceramics, and earthenware have become known throughout the world. China is also renowned for its fabrics -- embroidery, carpets, lace, and decorated cloths -- and was already known as the "land of silk" in the 3d century BC.

Much was done to preserve and develop the ancient traditions of the "folk arts" during the first decade of the PRC's existence. The Central Academy of Applied Art opened in 1956.

There has been a considerable growth in interest in folk arts and crafts in the PRC in recent years. Articles executed in national style -- mainly handmade -- are in considerable demand abroad and are an important PRC export. In addition, the creation of an extensive network of workshops of "skilled craftsmen" throughout the country is also helping to partially alleviate unemployment.

U.S. SR-71 INTRUDES INTO DPRK AIRSPACE 6 DEC

PM100919 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Dec 84 First Edition p 5

[TASS report under the heading "Provocative Flights"]

[Text] Pyongyang December 8 TASS -- An American SR-71 spy plane intruded into the airspace of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea over its territorial waters in the Yellow Sea on December 6, the KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY reported.

The DPRK's chief delegate to the Military Commission on the Truce in Korea strongly protested the American side's provocative actions. He said that these acts of aerial espionage are flagrant violations of his country's sovereignty and tend to heighten tension on the Korean peninsula even further. The United States should immediately stop its provocations against the DPRK, he demanded.

WPK DELEGATION VISITS MOSCOW, LENINGRAD

SK091119 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Text] Pursuant to the exchange plan between the CPSU and WPK, the delegation of WPK functionaries led by Comrade Yi Chang-son, WPK Central Committee member and the first deputy director of the Propaganda Department of the party Central Committee, stayed in the Soviet Union from 28 November to 6 December.

The delegation gained knowledge of the experience of the propaganda work of the CPSU. The delegation had (?meetings) at the departments of the CPSU Central Committee, Moscow City Party Committee, Leningrad [word indistinct], the Soviet State Television and Radio Broadcasting Committee, and [words indistinct], and visited the PRAVDA newspaper office and a series of other organizations and places in Moscow and Leningrad.

Comrade Zimyanin, CPSU Central Committee secretary, received and had talks with the delegation, and the talks were held in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Comrade Kwon Hui-kyong, DPRK ambassador to the Soviet Union, was on hand at the talks.

MOSCOW DENIES JAPAN'S AIRSPACE VIOLATION CHARGE

OW090320 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 8 Dec 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Recently Japanese media have reported about a protest filed by the Japanese in connection with an alleged violation of Japanese airspace by Soviet aircraft. Yet, it is not rare that, pursuant to such reports, rude denunciations, and even slanders against the Soviet Union, not to mention all sorts of falsehoods, are propagated. Taking up the false report on intrusions into Japanese airspace by Soviet aircraft, some newspapers treat these reports as if they were proof of Soviet military threats.

As the Japanese have already been notified, specialized agencies of the Soviet Union have closely investigated flights by Soviet aircraft, ascertaining that all the flights were conducted without violating Japanese airspace. Of all the notifications of this sort served by the Japanese from 1983 to 1984, none was substantiated by actual data. It was believed that this had made everything clear. However, encompassing the issue of violation, which actually did not exist, unfriendly campaigns against the Soviet Union are being carried out.

Conspicuous among the campaigns are remarks and articles which seem to contradict the Japanese official statement expressing a desire for improved relations with the Soviet Union. As a matter of course, we want to ask for whom and for what this is necessary. It is not necessary to wait for the answer. Certain forces in Japan are trying to capitalize on the groundless protest to incite an anti-Soviet mood in Japan and thus draw the attention of public opinion once again in the nonexistent Soviet military threat against Japan.

Attention should also be paid to the following fact: There are people in Japan who try to preach about the necessity of building up Japan's military capabilities, including the air force, taking advantage of the din over the fabricated incident, the so-called violations of Japanese airspace by Soviet aircraft. Therefore, we have no choice but to draw the conclusion that all these hyperbolic propaganda campaigns are aimed at justifying Japan's measure to build up its military power. What should be pointed out here with full responsibility is that raising a din by fabricating various problems will not only dim the atmosphere in Soviet-Japanese relations but it also will never in the interest of the Soviet or the Japanese people.

SOVIETS CONFIRM CHERNENKO TO ATTEND JCP TALKS

OW081143 Tokyo KYODO in English 1133 GMT 8 Dec 84

[Text] Tokyo, Dec 8 KYODO -- Soviet Communist Party chief Konstantin Chernenko will attend top-level talks on nuclear disarmament between the Japanese and Soviet Communist Parties to be held in Moscow, it was officially decided Saturday. This was disclosed in a report on Soviet members for the talks sent to the Japan Communist Party by the Soviet Communist Party the same day.

The report said six Soviet leaders including Chernenko and Boris Ponomarev, party Politburo candidate member and Secretariat member (chief of the party International Department) will attend the talks. JCP chief Kenji Miyamoto and his delegation will leave here for the Soviet Union Monday.

NORTHERN TERRITORIES CAMPAIGN SEEN AS ANTI-USSR

OW081109 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Georgiyev commentary]

[Text] According to a recent report by SANKEI SHIMBUN, the Japanese Foreign Ministry plans to disseminate books across the country designed to prevent the decline of interest in the so-called campaign for the return of the northern territories as extracurricular literature for the young people -- to begin with, primary and junior high school students.

In this connection, Moscow Radio commentator Georgiyev writes as follows:

Noteworthy first of all is the fact that the Foreign Ministry acknowledged less interest by the Japanese people in the campaign against the Soviet Union for the return of northern territories. Particularly noteworthy is the fact that interest decreased after many years of much effort and funds directed toward this propaganda campaign.

Ranking government officials and people of various levels visit Nemuro almost every month to observe the so-called northern territories.

Signature collection campaigns, rallies, and meetings are organized to demand the return of the territories, and propaganda activities of various other forms are carried out for the campaign.

However, despite all this, interest in the so-called territorial issue continues to be slight. Is this fact not clear proof that the territorial demand against the Soviet Union is never a demand put up by the whole nation as some in Tokyo try to pretend, but something artificially imposed on the Japanese opinion from above?

However, something inauspicious, which cannot be ignored, has found its expression in the territorial demand campaign against the Soviet Union. Judging from the above-quoted SANKEI SHIMBUN report as well as reports by other Japanese media, the advocates of this propaganda campaign, at the present stage, are concentrating efforts on working on young people's minds. In Nemuro, the publication of a special newspaper for children dealing with the so-called territorial issue has begun; and trips to Nosappu Cape by students for so-called observation of the northern territories are being conducted more and more frequently.

The Foreign Ministry has announced its plan to disseminate to schools tens of thousands of books on the nonexistent northern territories issue in a few years. Do the advocates of the territorial demand campaign against the Soviet Union realize what heavy responsibility they are assuming for themselves by doing so? As a matter of fact, what matters is the brainwashing of the young people, or the remolding of their minds, which are yet immature, into anti-Soviet spirit. The advocates of the territorial demand campaign, who sow the seed of anti-Soviet distrust, suspicions, and malice in the minds of children, seem to be working out plans to poison the atmosphere in Japanese-Soviet relations for decades to come. We say this because their ugly act, intended for children this time, will produce no other result.

We cannot help but regard such an act as also contradicting official statements by the Japanese side that it desires improved relations with the Soviet Union. We also wish to take note of the following: There are some people in Japan who like to mention a sense of distrust against the Soviet Union, describing it as if it were deep-rooted among the people. They willingly talk about the need for overcoming this trend; in that connection, they complain that the Soviet Union is not helping to overcome this trend through its own deeds.

In this case, however, we cannot help but say that an attempt is being made to lay the blame on others. There is not a single person in the Soviet Union who would think of such a preposterous thing as educating young people in malice against a certain country. If such a person should emerge, he would only be treated as crazy. Regrettably, this is not the case in Japan. What can be judged from the aforementioned instances is that implanting a sense of distrust and suspicion toward a neighboring country is becoming a daily routine in Japan.

Regarding the territorial demand campaign against the Soviet Union itself, Japan should realize that the Soviet posture will remain unchanged no matter what measures may be taken to instigate this campaign artificially or what ugly means may be used in doing so. The instigation of the territorial demand campaign will only slow the process of improving the atmosphere in Japanese-Soviet relations, which has recently begun. Such development of the affair will not be in the interest of the peoples of Japan and the Soviet Union, nor will it be in the interest of international detente and world peace.

SUSHKOV INTERVIEWED ON TOKYO ECONOMIC MEETING

OW091129 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 8 Dec 84

[Interview with Vladimir Sushkov, USSR deputy minister of foreign trade and head of a Soviet delegation to a joint meeting of the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet Economic Cooperation Committees, by an unidentified Moscow radio reporter -- place, date of interview not given; passages within quotation marks recorded in Russian, fading into Japanese translation]

[Excerpts] As has already been reported, the 9th joint meeting of the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet Economic Cooperation Committees is scheduled to open in Tokyo on 12 December. In this connection, a Moscow Radio reporter has interviewed USSR Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Suskov, the head of a Soviet delegation to the meeting. A report on the interview follows:

Question: First, in attending this meeting, what expectations do you have?

[Sushkov] "First of all, I would like to point out that the fact that the meeting will be held is in itself a commemorable event. Before this meeting, at which business leaders of the two countries will meet face to face, no meetings were convened for 5 years. Because of the very undesirable influence of well-known political factors, trade and economic interchanges between the two countries were temporarily interrupted during those years.

"The 9th joint meeting to be held in Tokyo is particularly significant. Signs of some improvement have been evident recently in the atmosphere of bilateral relations in general, and we think that it is necessary to consolidate it at the coming meeting. Furthermore, when business representatives of the two countries meet face to face, realistic possibilities of activating and drastically advancing bilateral trade and economic cooperation are created. At the upcoming meeting, we hope to review the development of trade and commercial exchanges in recent years and discuss a wide range of questions relating to the further promotion of cooperation between the two countries in the development of natural resources in Siberia and the Soviet Far East."

Question: What are objective prerequisites for overcoming difficulties in Soviet-Japanese trade and economic cooperation and bringing about its due expansion?

[Shushkov] "There are constants that are very desirable prerequisites for the development of Soviet-Japanese trade and they are: Japan's proximity to the Soviet Far East, which is making rapid developments, and the fact that nothing on the Soviet side obstructs or restricts trade with Japan.

"I would like to particularly emphasize that the timing of the upcoming meeting has important significance. The Soviet Union is on the threshold of carrying out a new 5-year plan; the timing of the meeting will open up the possibility of incorporating into our plan the large-scale projects to be undertaken through cooperation between the Soviet Union and Japan, which will be discussed at the meeting. If these projects can be placed on a solid and firm foundation, we think that it will be in the interest of not only the Soviet economy, but also the Japanese economy."

BOVIN VIEWS U.S.-PAKISTANI MILITARY TIES

PM101115 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Dec 84 Morning Edition p 4

[Article by political observer A. Bovin: "Islamabad's Dangerous Course"]

[Text] In October this year, a Pakistani newspaper, JANG, imparted the following extravagant views on its readers: "World war III will begin with a conflict between India and Pakistan." Leaving this grim prophesy on the newspaper's conscience, I will note that the history of Indian-Pakistani relations abounds in difficult, sometimes tragic periods. It includes three wars (in 1948, 1965, and 1971). Unfriendly, hostile impulses decked in religious intolerance have issued from Islamabad.

The assassination of Indira Gandhi, as was to be expected, has not helped the growth of mutual understanding between Delhi and Islamabad. Rather, the reverse has occurred. In light of the tragic events, the hypocritical policy of Pakistan's ruling circles who on one hand are assuring India of their friendly feelings and intentions and on the other are supporting the Sikhs and other separatists has stood out particularly clearly. Pakistan's unseemly role in aggravating the Punjab problem back in July led to the halting of Indian-Pakistani dialogue which focused on the idea of a nonaggression treaty.

Then, with the United States' most active participation, there ensued a series of rumors, hints, and "leaks" obviously aimed at presenting India's policy in a false light and causing an escalation of tension.

Reports "percolated" to the press alleging that in late September the CIA informed the U.S. Senate Committee on Intelligence that two squadrons of Indian Jaguar aircraft were possibly preparing to deliver a preemptive strike against a Pakistani nuclear establishment (a uranium enrichment plant) in Kahut. The CIA's information proved to be absurd, naturally. However, the point of the "leak is understandable: to justify arms deliveries to Pakistan and to paint in defensive shades the Pakistani generals' bellicosity.

There is more to come. On 5 October, the Pakistani newspaper NAWA-EWAQT, citing its Washington correspondent, carried a report of a letter from R. Reagan to Ziaul Haq in which the U.S. President promised to ensure Pakistan's "nuclear defense." A denial followed from Washington, but who believes U.S. denials nowadays?

On 10 October, speaking in Lahore, Deane Hinton, U.S. ambassador to Pakistan, stated that the United States would come to Pakistan's assistance in the event of Indian aggression. In Delhi this was assessed as an act of provocation and intolerable U.S. interference in the subcontinent's affairs. Washington explained that Hinton did not have India in mind but aggression "in general."

The next day reports came in from Washington, where Pakistani Foreign Minister Yaqub Khan was staying, that Islamabad was asking, in addition to the 40 F-16 fighter bombers it had been promised, that it be given E-2C Hawkeye reconnaissance aircraft with long-range radar detection. Once again it was no secret in Delhi what exactly they intended to "detect" and where. All the more so since Pakistan is speaking and writing insistently about the "Indian threat." In reality there is no such threat. However, the myth of this threat is necessary because it helps the Pakistani regime to obtain money and weapons and to generate and maintain anti-Indian sentiments on the crest of which the regime feels more confident.

Here is an interesting thing. The Americans, although they issue all kinds of provocative reports, would prefer less noise about the "Indian threat," because it prevents them from making advances to Delhi, and that is something that is fashionable just now.

The Americans prefer to make as much noise as possible about the "Soviet threat" with emphasis on the Afghan events, and Pakistan is fulfilling Washington's demands. Statements which are unfriendly to the Soviet Union are being heard increasingly frequently from Islamabad. Afghan counterrevolutionaries are being trained and armed on Pakistani territory with the participation of the Pakistani authorities. According to Afghan press reports, Pakistan is organizing conferences of ringleaders of the counterrevolutionary groupings and is helping the dushmans to publish their propaganda materials in huge numbers. Pakistani servicemen are invading Afghanistan increasingly frequently.

Pakistan pays lip service to a political solution of the Afghan question. However, in fact, by continuing to support the rebels and refusing to talk with Afghanistan's lawful Government, Islamabad is blocking the possibility of a political solution. All this is being paid for with generous military supplies from the United States in order, as they say, to "cover" the country from the northeast. However, Delhi rightly supposes that the Pakistani generals scarcely intend to fight the Soviet Union. For them the possibility of a war with India is far more likely, and they need weapons for precisely this purpose.

Official Washington is reassuring India. The more weapons we give Pakistan, Washington argues, the more secure Islamabad will feel and the less chance that an "Islamic atom bomb" will appear. The vulnerability of this argument is that Pakistan's saturation with modern weapons in no way signifies a parallel curtailment of nuclear research. Pakistan's saturation with modern weapons is having a different result -- tension is growing on the subcontinent. It is to be supposed that the visit to Islamabad by General J. Vessey, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, will intensify this dangerous trend.

After a talk with Rajiv Gandhi, the president of Pakistan optimistically predicted the emergence of "a dynamic and innovative approach toward Indian-Pakistani relations." It would indeed be a good thing if Islamabad were to display such an approach. So far, there has been nothing of the kind. "Despite numerous bows in the direction of India by Ziaul Haq," D.R. Goyal, an observer in the Indian newspaper THE NATIONAL HERALD, writes, "Islamabad's actions are continuing to create a grave threat to the republic's security." This is borne out in particular by the almost daily crossfire on the Indian-Pakistani border.

Viewing as a whole the intensive military-political links between Islamabad and Washington, the consolidation of the Pakistani war machine, and the role of the Pakistani authorities in supporting the Afghan counterrevolutionaries and Indian separatists, you have to conclude that the U.S. supported Pakistan has become a grave destabilizing factor on the South Asian subcontinent.

IZVESTIYA CRITICIZES U.S. AID FOR DUSHMANS

PM071035 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Dec 84 Morning Edition p 5

[Yu. Bandura article under the rubric "Behind the Scenes": "When There Are Not Enough Dushmans..."]

[Text] The U.S. congressional elections on 6 November brought no major changes to Capitol Hill. Against this background, however, the absence of Mr Tsongas (a Democrat from Massachusetts) from the senators was noticeable: Citing the state of his health, undermined, apparently, by his years of work on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Tsongas decided not to run for Congress again.

The Senator's decision to retire was made all the easier by the fact that he had previously managed to "perpetuate" his name: Shortly before the November elections, the Congress voted for a resolution that bears his name.

Thus, the senator is gone, but his resolution lives on. It lives in order to kill. For the essence of the document is to proclaim overt interference in the Afghan people's affairs and "effective support" for the fanatics through whom Washington and its ilk are trying to stifle the April Revolution in Afghanistan.

What makes Washington openly achnowledge its involvement in the undeclared war against the Afghan people? There is a reason, of course, and, from America's viewpoint, a reason of increasing significance.

Schools set on fire by the dushmans continue to burn. Mines planted by the bandits continue to explode in markets and movie theaters. Widows and orphans continue to weep over the lifeless bodies of the victims of "U.S.-style freedom" which entered Afghanistan by secret paths.... However, those who have betrayed their people are finding it increasingly hard to create evil and to sow death and destruction. The land that was once their own is rejecting the hired "liberators" with increasing determination and the Afghan people are increasingly firmly refusing the butchers' "right" to commit outrages.... This is why Washington and its allies need to "compensate" for the losses among the dushman "army" by direct involvement in the war on Afghan soil and to announce the switch to overt interventionist actions.

The only thing that "concerns" the United States is how to camouflage this. What kind of war is it without disguise? So, Washington is feverishly searching in its propaganda store. The following "argument" was rapidly adopted and used as the basis of the "Tsongas resolution": All the efforts undertaken to date by the U.S. special services to organize, arm, and train the dushmans are "clearly inadequate." Consequently, unless the administration takes the dushmans openly under its protection and begins giving them "effective support" they will not hold out for long. Neither "manuals in terrorism" compiled at Langley nor "textbooks in psychological warfare" will be of any help.

If you develop the "logic" inherent in the resolution and carry the chain of arguments in this document through to their conclusion, it is easy to reach the outcome which Washington is playing down but keeping constantly in its sights: Namely, if the killers hired by the West are swept from Afghan soil, peace will come to the country and this in no way accords with America's "strategic interests."

Today, also, Washington is trying to disguise the mercenaries, who are cursed by the people, in the garb of "freedom fighters." However, in their aggressive passion and desire to "validate" at all costs the need for direct U.S. interference in the Afghan people's internal affairs, the initiators of the "Tsongas resolution" let slip a succession of facts. These facts give a picture of a purposeful "measure" extending for a number of years.

The well-informed Washington bulletin CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY reported in August this year that the United States began financing "rebels" at least as long ago as mid-1979. The significance of this evidence cannot be overestimated: Washington's subversive services began preparing a fifth column in Afghanistan long before the limited contingent of Soviet troops went into that country at its legitimate government's request.

The aim of these "preparations" was clear even then, in 1979. It was to drown the April Revolution in blood, overthrow the people's power in Afghanistan, and impose on the country a terrorist regime which could be used to create without hindrance a base packed with first-strike nuclear systems in the immediate vicinity of the USSR's borders. This goal persists now, also. The more you look, the more confirmation you find of this.

The precise sums spent by Washington on its strategy of terror in Afghanistan are unknown. Budget appropriations for the upkeep and arming of the dushmans are painstakingly concealed within the incalculable items of expenditure on the Pentagon's needs.

One organization that seems to have the most accurate information, the pressure group "Federation for American-Afghan Action," reported 1 month ago that the "assistance" already amounts to $100 million. It is growing all the time; in August the decision was made to augment it by a further $50 million (shamefully hidden within a budget item labeled "other Air Force purchases"). On 28 November, THE NEW YORK TIMES, citing "official sources," stressed that in fiscal 1985 U.S. spending on the undeclared war against Afghanistan will almost double, to $280 million.

Washington needs to increase its spending for the simple reason that the scale of America's involvement in the Afghan war is also increasing. It is common knowledge, for example, that the camps for the Afghan reactionary bandit formations are located mainly in Pakistan. However, as TIME magazine reported recently, similar camps, although of a higher "grade," also exist in the United States where the CIA is training agents for shipping weapons to Afghanistan, leading cadres for dushman gangs, and "ordinary" spies (and training them in earnest, one "course" requires 9 months' "study"). (E. Eliva), a retired U.S. Army captain and former commander of the Green Berets, (and, incidentally, a coauthor of the "Tsongas resolution") has said that he has been involved in training terrorists for transfer to Afghanistan not only in the United States but also in the FRG.

The equipping of the dushmans with weapons (up to and including missiles) and ammunition, the allocation to them of "specialists" (the selfsame [Eliva] has been to the DRA four times with his "proteges"), and the provision to them of information obtained from U.S. spy satellites -- such is the present-day scale of the "cooperation" between Washington and the enemies of the April Revolution.

Are there any limits to this "cooperation"? America's disappointment at the dushman's inability to "liberate Afghanistan" is increasing in Washington's corridors of power. It has gone so far that ex-CIA chief Colby, at a discussion arranged by HARPER'S MAGAZINE in September this year, openly expressed sympathy for the dushmans "who, perhaps, feel unhappy at the fact that we cannot support them with B-52 strategic bombers."

In the same discussion, Morton Halperin, director of the National Security Research Center, who worked for Nixon on the National Security Council from 1966-1969 [as published], quipped that the extent of America's involvement in Afghanistan must be defined once the United States "decides to turn Afghanistan into a point of confrontation with the Russians." The "Tsongas resolution," which gives the administration a free hand to provide "effective support" to its hirelings, was adopted on the way toward taking that decision.

This ill-concealed appeal for an expansion of the interventionist actions in Afghanistan has been carefully wrapped in demagoguery (clearly designed for the "international response"); the resolution is sprinkled with "praise" directed toward the dushmans, assurances of Capitol Hill's striving to "liberate Afghanistan," and condemnations of the "Soviet invasion".... It is a familiar wrapping. It now enclosed everything designed to "validate" the White House's hegemonist aspirations and justify Washington's craving for "global domination." However who today will believe in these devalued U.S. "spirtual values" if even those people who are charged with turning these high-flown phrases into harsh reality do not believe in them?

Here is what John Stockwell, a former CIA executive who organized the "struggle for freedom" for Washington in such countries as the Ivory Coast, Zaire, Angola, and Vietnam, who also took part in the discussion at HARPER'S MAGAZINE, had to say: "All the high-flown commentaries regarding the American people and the democratic process usually ignore the fact that our government, the U.S. Government, deliberately and categorically lies to the American people whenever it is a matter of secret operations conducted on the initiative of or encouraged by the CIA."

Stockwell claims that Washington lied in 1975 when it hid its true aims in Angola and that it is lying now, too, when preparing aggression against Nicaragua... . Afghanistan is no exception: The White House's strategy is global. No resolutions can hide the hegemonist character of this strategy which relies on force and coercion.

PRAVDA CARRIES USSR CONDOLENCES TO INDIA

PM071357 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Dec 84 First Edition p 1

[Text] To Mr. Zail Singh, president of the Republic of India, and Mr Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of the Republic of India.

Please accept our profound condolences in connection with the tragic event in Bhopal which has resulted in large loss of life.

Please convey our sincere sympathy to the families of the victims.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and USSR Council of Ministers.

COMMENTATOR LINKS BHOPAL TRAGEDY TO ELECTIONS

PM071222 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian on 7 December in its First Edition carries on page 5 a 500-word commentary by S. Bulantsev entitled "India: The Crime in Bhopal."

Bulantsev cites Indian press headlines and reports on the disaster and attacks "American companies" for exporting "technology which is fraught with danger for people's health." He writes briefly of previous incidents at the Union Carbide plant and describes the Bhopal tragedy as a "direct consequence of the criminal policy of 'profits at all costs.'" He concludes:

"The causes of the accident have not yet been established, but many Indian observers believe that the matter can hardly be reduced to purely technical defects. The monstrous incident which has disrupted the normal life of the entire 700-million-strong nation must, in their opinion, be examined in a wider context. India is on the threshold of a very important event -- parliamentary general elections. Currently, the country's press is writing much about plans by certain foreign powers to influence the outcome of the elections. For example, the government has imposed strict controls on the remittance of funds from abroad to various religious and public organizations which have often proved to be a cover for intelligence departments in Western countries. A presidential decree was issued earlier banning the financing of political parties from sources abroad. The grave shock caused by the tragedy, which is unprecedented in the country's history, by no means helps establish an atmosphere of tranquillity for holding the elections."

IZVESTIYA VIEWS THAILAND'S MILITARY PREPARATIONS

PM071317 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Dec 84 Morning Edition p 4

[S. Agafonov article under the "Topical Theme" rubric entitled "Commentary on a Telegram: Why the Pentagon Is Forking Out"]

[Text] According to a news agency report, John Dean, U.S. ambassador to Thailand, has stated that American military aid to Thailand will increase by a further $1.1 million in the new fiscal year. Tht total subsidy to Bangkok's military preparations will thus be $107.3 million in 1985.

These figures are eloquent, patently illustrating Washington's interest in the militarisation of Thailand, and in tying that country close to the American military machine. It would not be superfluous to recall that by ensuring 85 percent of all deliveries of armaments to Bangkok, the United States has a powerful lever to influence the policy of the country.

Thailand attracts the Pentagon not only by its strategic position, and the possibility of deploying American bases on its territory (although these questions, judging by Western press reports, have already been put on the agenda of American-Thai relations). U.S. generals view Bangkok also in another aspect -- as a proponent of American interests in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which boils down to an attempt to transform ASEAN into a military bloc under the U.S. aegis, and the buildup of American presence in the region.

To attain these aims, Washington spares neither material means nor propaganda efforts. Recently according to foreign press estimates, the U.S. direct military aid to ASEAN countries almost trebled. The purpose of these means also changed. If earlier American credits were used to purchase conventional arms, now they are spent to purchase sophisticated systems and strategic arms (suffice it to mention the ultramodern F-16 fighter-planes). Besides, Washington also steps up other forms of military links between the United States and ASEAN member-countries, including a broad program of military exercises, unification of armaments, and even separate elements of joint planning of operations for the event of "extraordinary circumstances." A new term "defense forces of the Strait of Malacca" appeared in the United States not so long ago; it implies a regional military structure with the Pentagon at the head.

As for the propaganda background, the transatlantic strategists are playing variations on the theme of notorious "threats" to ASEAN states. First, it is the "insidious Russians," then it is the "equally insidious Vietnamese," but the underlying motivation remains the same, namely, a desire to heighten tension in the region, which, in Washington's opinion, will sooner or later force the ASEAN countries into a military alliance with the United States.

The extra million handed over to Bangkok to meet its military needs is far from trivial in the present conditions. The road leading from dollar handouts to the setting up of a puppet regime is a direct one.

THAI ENVOY HOLDS RECEPTION IN MOSCOW 5 DEC

PM070935 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Dec 84 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report "On the Occasion of a Holiday"]

[Text] Waikun Samruatruamphon, Thai ambassador to the Soviet Union, gave a reception on 5 December on the occasion of national day.

The reception was attended by A.S. Barkauskas, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, M.S. Kapitsa, USSR deputy foreign minister, and other officials.

Representatives of Moscow's public marked the Thai national day on 4 December. The soiree was attended by W. Samruatruamphon, Thai ambassador to the Soviet Union.

CPSU DELEGATION STUDIES PARTY CONTROL IN SRV

PM071419 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Dec 84 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Experience"]

[Text] A delegation of CPSU party workers headed by M.G. Voropayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, was in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam from 27 November through 3 December in line with the plan for interparty ties between the CPSU and Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV). The delegation familiarized itself with the work experience of CPV control and auditing bodies, had conversations at the CPV Central Committee Party Control Committee and Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City committees, and toured the country.

The delegation was received by Vo Chi Cong, member of the Politburo and Secretary of the CPV Central Committee.

USSR MESSAGE OF GREETINGS ON LAO ANNIVERSARY

BK060701 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 2 Dec 84

[Greetings message from CPSU Central Committee, Presidium of USSR Supreme Soviet, and USSR Council of Ministers to Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and chairman of Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPRP] Council of Ministers; and Comrade Souphanouvong, president of the LPDR and chairman of the Supreme People's Council [SPC] of the LPDR -- date not given]

[Text] On the occasion of the 9th anniversary of the LPDR founding, on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the USSR Government, and the Soviet people. and in our own names, we would like to extend our warm congratulations and best wishes to you, comrades, and, through you, to the LPRP Central Committee, the SPC, the Lao Government, and the fraternal Lao people.

Under the leadership of the LPRP, on 2 December 1975 the Lao people brought about their national-democratic revolution and entered the path of building the foundation for a socialist society. Firmly adhering to the line outlined at the Third LPRP Congress, the laboring Lao people have profoundly and thoroughly performed the task of transforming and building economic and social foundations with brilliant achievements, thus securely safeguarding their sovereignty and territorial integrity.

We are extremely pleased to see that the close friendship and all-around cooperation between the CPSU and the LPRP, and between the Soviet Union and the LPDR on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism. [sentence as heard] Thanks to its foreign policy of peace, the LPDR has gained a prestigious position. Laos has stood side by side with Vietnam and Kampuchea in fighting consistently for international peace and security and for a bright situation in Southeast Asia so as to turn this region into a zone of peace, good-neighborliness, and cooperation. The Soviet Union always supports this foreign policy of peace.

On the occasion of the anniversary of the LPDR's auspicious historic day, we wish you, comrades, and the laboring Lao peoples new, greater successes in the tasks of socialist construction and defending the fruits of the revolution.

May the fraternal friendship and cooperation between our two parties and peoples remain fast and develop steadily!

[Signed] The CPSU Central Committee; the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, the USSR Council of Ministers.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS NEW CALEDONIA DEVELOPMENTS

PM071437 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Dec 84 Morning Edition p 1

[Own correspondent report: "New Caledonia (France): Reprisals Against Kanaks"]

[Text] Paris -- According to reports reaching here, nine Kanaks have been killed and five wounded.

This happened at Hienghene on the northeast coast of New Caledonia, where French settlers fired on supporters of the National Socialist Front for the Liberation of the Kanaks (FLNKS), who express the interests of the indigenous population.

This happened soon after E. Pisani, the French Government's special representative who is now in New Caledonia, appealed for order and calm. However, the situation on the archipelago remains extremely tense. Thio and a number of other population centers have been completely cut off from the outside world. The FLNKS supporters, who are demanding the rapid granting of independence to New Caledonia, are continuing to block roads and occupy gendarmeries. The French settlers are organizing armed "self-defense detachments."

During the National Assembly debates on New Caledonia, (J. Bryan), speaking on behalf of communist deputies, called on the government to recognize the Kanaks' right to their own land and to manage their affairs themselves. It would be absurd for France to begin a colonial war, he stressed. Nothing can be resolved by means of force, the deputy stated.

IZVESTIYA COMMENTS ON VISIT BY AUSTRIA'S SINOWATZ

PM071509 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Dec 84 Morning Edition p 4

[G. Deynichenko "International Commentary" under the rubric "On a Topical Theme": "An Important Stability Factor"]

[Text] Austrian Federal Chancellor F. Sinowatz' official visit to the Soviet Union has aroused great interest nearly everywhere. The interest is due primarily to the fact that during the conversation between K.U. Chernenko, CPSU Central Committee general secretary and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, and the federal chancellor and during the talks between the Soviet and Austrian leaders there was convincing confirmation of our country's principled stance in the struggle to avert the nuclear threat and our willingness to seek the most radical solutions that would assist progress toward a total ban on and, ultimately, the liquidation of nuclear weapons.

It was certainly no accident that problems of big politics came under scrutiny during the Moscow visit by the Austrian Government head. Although Austria enjoys the status of permanent neutrality, it is not aloof from these problems, and it is trying to play a positive part in international affairs. Moreover, the current international situation demands that all states, irrespective of size, social system, and membership in an alliance or the group of neutral and nonaligned countries, act vigorously to solve the main task of the present day, the elimination of the threat of nuclear war. The Austrians are aware that today no people has the right to turn a blind eye to the world's problems.

Hence the fact that the Moscow talks participants concurred on many important aspects of international politics. The sides advocated an end to the arms race in all spheres and opposed its spread to space. The USSR and Austria expressed their readiness to contribute to the elaboration and adoption at the Stockholm conference of a range of complementary measures on strengthening trust and security in Europe and advocated the achievement of a mutually acceptable agreement at the Vienna talks on the reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe. The communique published on the visit records other questions whose solution both sides are approaching from approximately identical standpoints.

Soviet-Austrian bilateral relations occupied an important place in the talks. For many years they have been based on the solid foundation of mutual trust and respect. This atmosphere of mutual trust and mutual understanding is bearing fine fruit in practical cooperation between the two countries, be it traditional political consultations, exchanges in the cultural sphere, or business ties. Here is an illustration: The volume of trade between the USSR and Austria has more than doubled over the last 5 years. Coproduction and joint cooperation projects are undergoing increasing development.

It is pertinent to point out that some people in the West take exception to such multifaceted cooperation, which is evidence of the vitality of the principles of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems. Neutral Austria has come under pressure on several occasions from Western circles bent on undermining detente and curtailing mutually advantageous economic cooperation between East and West. However, Austria prefers to follow the tried and tested path and continue the proven practice of comprehensive development of relations with the Soviet Union. During Chancellor F. Sinowatz's stay in Moscow new milestones of long-term trade and economic, scientific, and technical cooperation were planned. The mutual desire to develop political contacts was expressed.

The 1955 state treaty resurrecting an independent and democratic Austria and its assumed status of permanent neutrality remain the stable foundation of Soviet-Austrian ties.

These documents are of unfading significance. The nature of the Soviet-Austrian relations that have taken shape on that basis accords not only with the two countries' interests, but also with the broader interests of peace and international security. The Soviet-Austrian summit talks in Moscow demonstrated a mutual desire to widen and deepen the good relations between the USSR and Austria, which are a vital factor of stability in Europe.

IZVESTIYA CITES AUSTRIA'S GRATZ ON TIES WITH USSR

PM071613 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 24 November in its Morning Edition carries a page 5 a 2,000-word Vienna-Moscow report by IZVESTIYA's own correspondent V. Mikheyev entitled "Austria: Finding a Common Language." The report talks about Austria and its commercial ties with foreign countries, in particular the USSR. It contains the following passage:

"Foreign Minister Leopold Gratz talks with us about the need to preserve the political guidelines that point the way for Austria to even and balanced relations with its neighbors. Formerly minister of education and mayor of Vienna for 11 years, L. Gratz stated with conviction that his experience unequivocally shows that the USSR respects its partners and deals with them as equals. For nearly 30 years now, Austrian-Soviet relations have been improving step by step and year by year. Cooperation plans are drawn up not in periods of months, but on a long-term basis, which has a favorable effect on the Austrian economy. This adds stability to the dialogue between Vienna and Moscow.

"Austria, L. Gratz continued, is maintaining its efforts geared to the success of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe. Austria advocates the formation of nuclear-free zones and the conclusion of a worldwide treaty on the nonuse of force in international relations. We believe, Gratz concluded, that coexistence is good for us, but it is not enough. We advocate comprehensive cooperation among states in the spirit of Helsinki."

KUZNETSK BASIN MINERS ASSIST STRIKING UK MINERS

LD071855 Moscow TASS in English 1825 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Text] Kemerovo December 7 TASS — A meeting of solidarity with striking miners of Britain was held today at the mine named after Lenin of the "Yuzhkuzbassugol" amalgamation, the south of Siberia. Members of a delegation of striking British miners which arrived in the Kuznetsk coal basin took part in the meeting.

The internationalist ties of Soviet and British working people have long-standing traditions, the participants in the meeting stressed in their speeches. Soviet miners again supported the British miners in the struggle for their rights. Workers of mines of the southern part of the Kuznetsk coal basin contributed over 100 thousand roubles to the fund of assistance to class brothers abroad.

SIGNS OF 'BRISKER' SOVIET-BRITISH TRADE NOTED

LD071752 Moscow TASS in English 1507 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Text] Moscow December 7 TASS -- TASS economic news analyst Nikolay Komarov writes: Soviet-British trade, stagnant for several years, has lately shown signs of becoming brisker. In the first half of this year, according to Soviet statistics, it registered an increase of some 25 percent over the same period of last year, and is expected to reach 2,000 million roubles by year's end, exceeding the record level of 1979.

An appreciable impulse to intensifying bilateral business contacts has been given by the May session of the Intergovernmental Soviet-British Committee for Cooperation in Applied Science, Technology, Trade and the Economy, which was held in Moscow and chaired by Soviet Foreign [Trade] Minister Nikolay Patolichev.

The Soviet Union has been visited by a number of Britain's officials as well as delegations from the business community of that country. British firms have taken an active part in various exhibitions in the USSR, including the specialized foreign shows of equipment used in the oil and gas industries and in plastic production, which closed earlier this week.

Energetic consultations have been under way also in the working groups set up by the intergovernmental commission. One such group, concerned with machines and equipment, has just ended a successsful meeting, and another working group, that for agriculture, foodstuff processing and wrapping, will go into session in London next Monday.

All these contacts have yielded concrete results: There have been deals closed and talks started on a number of important projects. There are busy discussions under way currently, for instance, on plans to build two chemical plants in the Soviet Union on "turn-key" terms. Soviet exports to Britain have also kept growing.

Naturally enough, Soviet foreign-trade organizations buy only up-to-date, highly effective equipment at competitive prices. Much attention is also given to finding mutually acceptable solutions to questions of financing purchases. Britain, once the USSR's biggest trading partner among Western states, has real opportunities to solidify its positions in the Soviet market.

TASS REPORTS ON UPCOMING NATO WINTER MANEUVERS

LD092143 Moscow TASS in English 2049 GMT 9 Dec 84

[Text] Bonn December 9 TASS -- TASS correspondent Valeriy Glukhov reports:

No sooner had NATO's "Autumn Forge-84" large-scale exercises ended in West Germany than plans for another show of force emerged. The main role in them is again attached to U.S. troops deployed in West Germany and "reinforced" by units shipped from the United States to Europe.

Under the plans made by the U.S. command in Europe, winter maneuvers are going to be staged in January-February 1985. During their first stage, codenamed "Reforger," about 19,000 troops, including a battalion of Rangers and units of reservists and National Guards as well as 300,000 tonnes of military cargo will be shipped by air and by sea from the United States to Europe. The second stage of the maneuvers, "Central Guardian," will take place in Kassel-Fulda (Hessen), in close proximity of the GDR border. All in all, more than 65,000 troops of the United States, Canada, West Germany, and Luxembourg will be involved in the maneuvers. Some 16,000 tanks and self-propelled guns, armoured personnel carriers, transport vehicles, and 650 helicopters will take part.

UK GIBRALTAR STANCE LINKED TO SPAIN'S NATO POLICY

LD091138 Moscow TASS in English 1024 GMT 9 Dec 84

[Text] Moscow December 9 TASS -- "Recently the British and Spanish foreign ministers signed in Brussels a declaration which plans out a number of measures aimed at settling the problem of Gibraltar, the last colony in Europe", Vladimir Chernyshov writes in PRAVDA.

"At the meeting in Brussels, London for the first time agreed to include in the text of the document the word "sovereignty'", the author points our. "This fact has been regarded in the Spanish capital as a 'big political and diplomatic victory' and a 'historic turning point' in relations between the two countries. Britain's concession, although it was wrested by the Spanish delegation literally at the last moment is viewed upon as 'sensational'".

"However, serious political observers did not notice any sensation in the story," the commentary says. "They directly associate London's consent to 'discuss sovereignty matters' (only to discuss them so far), as well as London's recognition of the equality of Spanish people's rights in Gibraltar and of Gibraltar residents in Spain with the stand of the Felipe Gonzalez government which recently declared in favour of Spain's remaining in NATO. It was precisely after the Spanish cabinet publicly stated its pro-Atlantic course that the talks immediately made headway".

"A supposition is being expressed in political circles of Madrid that future talks on Gibraltar will be slow and complex ones, and that it is not ruled out that the problem may serve as a kind of lever by means of which the Atlantists will do their best to bind Spain more closely to the North Atlantic bloc", the commentator sums up.

TWO DANISH TOURISTS EXPELLED FROM USSR

LD072012 Moscow TASS in English 1953 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Text] Leningrad December 7 TASS -- Two Danish tourists, Henry Nahmann, a 48-year-old engineer, and Charlie Garbarsch, a 49-year-old physician, were expelled from the Soviet Union today. A considerable amount of propaganda literature -- magazines, brochures, newspapers and leaflets of a Zionist and nationalist content -- were found on the foreigners who came to Leningrad yesterday night. Knowing that Soviet laws ban the import of such materials, they concealed them on their bodies under clothes and in concealed compartments of their suitcases.

The Danish tourists, in giving their explanations, placed responsibility for their action on Rabbi Bent Melchior of Copenhagen's Jewish community who allegedly supplied them with the propaganda material and asked them to smuggle it into the USSR.

Several instances of this kind have been recorded in recent time when visitors to the USSR posing as tourists undertook similar provocative steps. Considerable batches of Zionist material were confiscated in September from Danish couple Allan and Anita Metz who tried to smuggle them inside special body belts.

It is regrettable that some foreigners, acting for Zionist organizations, undertake to carry out hostile missions on the territory of the country which is prepared to accord them hospitality, and thus deprive themselves of a chance to complete the programme of a tourist trip.

U.S. REACTION TO AIRLINE HIJACKING CONDEMNED

NC080720 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Text] The Kuwaiti airline hijacking incident, which has resulted in deaths, is receiving wide attention by the world's social circles. Observers point to the fact that specific circles in the West, primarily in the United States, are blatantly trying to attribute political motives to this terrorist act and are trying to use it for their own ends. For example, according to an AFP report from Washington, the U.S. State Department issued a special statement in which it condemned the Iranian Government for collaborating with the hijackers of the Kuwaiti airliner -- an incident that has resulted in the deaths of a number of passengers. Reports from Kuwait say President Ronald Reagan sent a special message to Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the emir of Kuwait. A Radio Kuwait report shows that President Reagan's message is flagrantly anti-Iranian. Assessing these facts, analysts believe that Washington's officials are trying to use this incident to aggravate the tension in the Persian Gulf.

TASS REPORTS RELEASE OF HIJACKING HOSTAGES

LD101038 Moscow TASS in English 1030 GMT 10 Dec 84

[Text] Nicosia December 12 TASS -- According to reports of news agencies from Tehran, officers of the Iranian security service have taken by assault the plane of the Kuwaiti air company staying in the Tehran Airport which was hijacked on December 4, Tuesday, and arrested the hijackers. The terrorists who held the plane for six days killed and injured several passengers. The airbus with 160 people on board was making a Kuwait-Karachi flight.

As is known, the air piracy has been strongly denounced by the world community. The U.N. Security Council urged all the countries to do their utmost for preventing the criminal acts of the hijacking of planes.

SUPREME SOVIET CABLES JORDAN ON NATIONAL DAY

PM071313 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Dec 84 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent King Husayn of Jordan a telegram in connection with the country's national holiday. The telegram expresses cordial congratulations and good wishes to the Jordanian head of state and wishes for prosperity and success to the friendly Jordanian people in the pan-Arab struggle for a just and all-embracing settlement of the Near East conflict.

In a reply telegram to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the King of Jordan expressed sincere gratitude for the warm congratulations and good wishes and, for his part, expressed the wish that the friendly relations existing between the two countries will continue to strengthen and develop for the good of the two countries' peoples and in the interests of establishing a just peace in the Near East.

USSR, MOZAMBIQUE HOLD TRADE TALKS IN MOSCOW

PM071417 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Dec 84 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Talks Held"]

[Text] Soviet-Mozambican talks were held in Moscow 3-5 December during which questions of developing trade and economic ties between the USSR and Mozambique in 1985 were examined.

A. Branco, minister of industry and power and head of the Mozambican delegation, had meetings with G.K. Zhuravlev, first deputy foreign trade minister, and P.Ya. Koshelev, deputy chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations.

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION LEAVES FOR CAMEROON

PM070947 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Dec 84 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the "Official Announcements" rubric: "Departure for Cameroon"]

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by M.Z. Shakirov, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium member, left Moscow on 4 December for Yaounde on an official visit at the invitation of the Cameroonian National Assembly. The delegation comprises USSR Supreme Soviet Deputies V.V. Nikitin, L.P. Shurygin, and G.A. Tsitlidze.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by G.M. Yegorov, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium member, senior officials of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and other officials. J. Nkengong Monie, Cameroonian ambassador to the USSR, was also in the sendoff party.

At Yaounde airport the guests were welcomed by Solomon Tandeng Muna, president of the National Assembly of the Republic of Cameroon, parliamentary deputies, S.S. Zykov, USSR ambassador to Cameroon, and other officials.

SAO TOME PARTY LEADER RECEIVES CPSU DELEGATION

PM070939 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Dec 84 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "High Assessment"]

[Text] Sao Tone, 3 Dec -- The Movement for the Liberation of Sao Tome and Principe (MLSTP) highly assesses the relations of friendship and cooperation with the CPSU, H. Pinto da Costa, MLSTP Central Committee secretary for questions of economic development, has stated. Today he received a delegation of CPSU party workers headed by S.V. Lutsenko, secretary of the Kharkov Ukrainian Communist Party Obkom, which is here on a visit. This visit, H. Pinto da Costa said, will undoubtedly promote the further consolidation of the fraternal ties between the MLSTP and the CPSU and the peoples of our countries in the joint struggle for peace and progress and against the intrigues of international imperialism. He emphasized the great importance that the experience of building a society of social justice accumulated by the CPSU has for the young African state.

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA URGES TALKS WITH U.S.

LD091212 Moscow TASS in English 1111 GMT 9 Dec 84

[Text] Managua December 9 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Gorbunov reports:

The assertions by President Reagan that Soviet ships allegedly deliver MIG fighter planes to Nicaragua are a deliberate lie which is designed to justify a U.S. direct armed aggression against the Nicaraguan people, Daniel Ortega, member of the national leadership of the Sandinista National Liberation Front, coordinator of the Guiding Council of the National Reconstruction Government, has stated here. Speaking at a press conference after meeting a group of U.S. congressmen, the Nicaraguan leader emphasized that the United States with its huge espionage apparatus knows quite well that there are no combat aircraft in the Republic's territory.

The provocative uproar raised by the White House over Soviet MIG planes meets its attempts at deceiving the U.S. public, and at making it belive in a non-existent "threat on the part of Nicaragua" as well as in a "need" for a U.S. armed interference in the internal affairs of the republic, Daniel Ortega pointed out. The same goal is being also served by the fresh anti-Nicaraguan campaign during which the White House propaganda machine, contrary to the truth, asserts that Nicaragua allegedly intends to "use chemical weapons against its neighbors". Daniel Ortega emphasized that the threat of a chemical attack really exists but on the part of the United States against Nicaragua, and not on the part of the Republic.

At present, he went on to say, no one has any doubt about the fact that Nicaragua became a victim of U.S. aggression. The extraordinary circumstances which have been provoked by the hostile actions of the U.S. imperialism compel our country to live according to extraordinary laws. U.S. aggression is detrimental to the cause of strengthening democracy in Nicaragua. And neverthless, considerable successes have been scored along the way, Daniel Oretage pointed out. The recent general elections in the Republic passed in the conditions of full freedom. Taking part in them were most diverse political forces. Certain restrictive measures which have been introduced in the country will be lifted as the aggression which caused them will cease.

Daniel Ortega urged U.S. political figures who are concerned over the state of U.S.-Nicaraguan relations to press with redoubled energy for the holding of U.S. honest talks with Nicaragua and for the signing of bilateral agreements which would guarantee mutual security of the sides and first of all Nicaragua's security which has been put in jeopardy as a result of the U.S. aggressive policy. The Nicaraguan leader announced that another round of U.S.-Nicaraguan talks opens in Manzanillo (Mexico) on December 10. During the talks the Republic's delegation will again insist on a search for ways for a peaceful political settlement of problems between the USA and Nicaragua.

ZORIN CLAIMS U.S INVASION OF NICARAGUA PLANNED

LD072305 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1940 GMT 7 Dec 84

[From the "World Today" program presented by Valentin Zorin]

[Excerpts] It is reported from Managua that according to information there, the Washington administration is pressing ahead with preparations for direct military intervention in Nicaragua.

As has become known, special U.S. engineer units have just completed the construction of an airfield for military helicopters in Honduras. Moreover, there is a landing strip under construction capable of receiving the most modern U.S. combat aircraft at the Palmerola air base. The U.S. camp at this base occupies 20 sq km. Every day, gigantic transporters arrive at the military base bringing more and more new supplies of arms, munitions, and other military equipment.

According to rumors circulating in Washington reported by the foreign press, there are advocates in the U.S. capital of a mass invasion of Nicaragua in the near future -- before the reelected U.S. Congress starts work at the end of January. The fact of the matter is that under pressure from broad circles of the U.S. public, who are coming out against Washington's aggressive actions against Nicaragua, some of the congressmen are opposed to plans for U.S. aggression there. In fighting for the immediate implementation of a military adventure, the organizers of the provocation against Nicaragua feel that the time prior to Congress' reconvening is more suitable for the start of the aggression.

USSR SOLIDARITY LEADER CITES ATTACKS ON NICARAGUA

LD082004 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 8 Dec 84

[From the Vremya newscast; talk by writer Aleksandr Chakovskiy]

[Text] A mass protest demonstration against U.S. imperialism's crimes in Nicaragua has been held in front of the U.S. Embassy in Managua by families and friends of Nicaraguans who have died at the hands of CIA mercenaries.

Here is the chairman of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With the Peoples of Latin America, the writer Aleksandr Chakovskiy.

[Begin Chakovskiy video recording] Comrades, friends. The world has learned of the latest evils commited by U.S. CIA mercenaries and counterrevolutionaries on Nicaraguan soil. Let me remind you what happened this time: Groups of counterrevolutionaries attacked peaceful civilians who had set off for the hills of Nueva Segovia Province to help the peasants gather the coffee harvest. They carried no arms, and died clutching coffee beans in their hands. The bandits wounded dozens of others, including women and children.

This latest evil deed of the so-called contras has added to the dismal list of crimes committed since they began their mass incursions from neighboring Honduras and Costa Rica. According to the latest figures, over the last few years alone, 7,000 people have died at the hands of the counterrevolutionary groups in Nicaragua, more than 6,000 children have been left orphans, and more than two dozen village schools and a large number of hospitals have been destroyed. Because of the threat of attack by bandits, 800 general education schools have been closed.

The counterrevolution is trying to smother the Nicaraguan revolution by threatening it with famine, and not just by force of arms. This is a well-known ploy by counterrevolutionaries of all guises and throughout the ages. We do not know the names of the bandits committing these evil deeds against peaceful Nicaraguans, but we do know who is behind them: the very same subversive U.S. espionage department that receives special sums from Congress for subversive activity against Nicaragua, for attempts to destabilize its economy, and for attempts on the lives of the country's leaders.

The Sandinist National Liberation Front victory in the recent elections gave rise to a particular outburst of fury, so they are trying to take out their anger on people whose only crime is that they are devoted to the freedom and independence of their country.

We, the Soviet people, share the anger and sorrow of the Nicaraguan people. Our hearts are heavy at the latest bloody crimes of the bandits, and we call upon the U.S. Government to stop all support for the counterrevolutionary groups and to end interference in the internal affairs of the sovereign country of Nicaragua.

The Soviet Committee for Solidarity With the Peoples of Latin America, the Soviet people, and all the peoples of the world call for peace for Nicaragua. [end recording]

U.S. HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE DEBATES CIA MANUAL

LD071321 Moscow TASS in English 1044 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Text] Washington December 7 TASS -- TASS correspondent Aleksandr Lyutyy reports:

Last March unusual "gifts" fell from the skies on plots of Nicaraguan farmers near the Honduran border. Brightly coloured toys were wrapped up in plastic packages. However, there was a "tie-in", a small booklet with instructions on how to "neutralise" the Nicaraguan authorities by killings, abductions and violence, how to provoke disorder and how to engineer acts of sabotage at farms and industrial plants. The booklet had been published by the U.S. CIA headquarters in Langley and dropped among with the brightly coloured bait from air balloons which were launched from Honduran territory at night.

Members of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence learned on Thursday about that "invention" of the CIA in its undeclared war against sovereign Nicaragua. The commission is holding hearings into the production by the CIA of a manual for anti-Nicaraguan terrorists, which caused worldwide outrage. "The knights of cloak and dagger" who testified at the hearings admitted that some 2,000 copies of the "primer for killers" compiled by the spy agency had been issued to the Somozistas based in Honduras while another 100 copies had been dropped on Nicaraguan territory from the air. The purpose, according to AP, was not only to try to recruit ordinary Nicaraguans into the anti-governmental forces but also to scare the authorities by creating the impression that the actions of the U.S.-backed rebels were a graver threat than they really were.

The "inventors" from Langley planned to continue that shameful operation with toys and air balloons for several months but soon had to give it up because the venture, as AP points out, did not have any noticeable effect on the Nicaraguan Government. The CIA did not recruit anyone either.

The new agency says that the congressmen at the hearings voiced puzzlement over that operation. However, it was just an episode, although ridiculous, in the dirty actions of the CIA, which specialises in international terrorism, assassinations of statesmen and military and political ventures.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA REPORTS KUTAKHOV FUNERAL

PM071309 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Dec 84 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "On Final Journey; Funeral of Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov"]

[Text] Yesterday, Soviet servicemen and Moscow working people bade farewell to Twice Hero of the Soviet Union Chief Marshal of Aviation Pavel Stepanovich Kutakhov, prominent Soviet military leader, member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet, commander in chief of the Air Force, and USSR deputy defense minister.

... The Red Banner Hall of the M.V. Frunze Central House of the Soviet Army was decked in mourning. The coffin containing P.S. Kutakhov's body was placed on a pedestal there framed with fresh flowers. The combat banners were dipped, intertwined with mourning ribbons. The chief marshal of aviation's combat awards were on red velvet. Around the pedestal lay wreaths from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers, the USSR Defense Ministry, the USSR KGB, the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, the branches of the Armed Forces, groups of forces and military districts, departments and military training establishments, Moscow working people, and the deceased's friends and relations. There were wreaths from the socialist countries' military attaches.

Funeral music played. In mournful silence combat friends, veteran comrades-in-arms, and Soviet Army and Navy servicemen bade farewell to Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov. Workers and employees of Moscow enterprises, higher education students, and pupils from the capital's schools filed past the coffin.

The funeral music continued playing. In the honor guard were Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, and Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR first deputy defense ministers; Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political directorate; A.N. Soshnikov, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Administrative Organs Department; and Marshal of the Soviet Union V.I. Petrov, Chief Marshal of Aviation A.I. Koldunov, Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov, Army General V.L. Govorov, Marshal of the Soviet Union S.K. Kurkotkin, Army General V.M. Shabanov, Marshal of Engineering Troops N.F. Shestopalov, Army General A.T. Altunin, and Army General I.N. Shkadov, USSR deputy defense ministers.

Representatives of the main command of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces and military attaches attached to the socialist countries' embassies in the USSR came to pay their profound respects to the memory of the prominent Soviet military leader P.S. Kutakhov.

At Novodevichiy Cemetery, the funeral meeting devoted to the memory of Chief Marshal of Aviation Pavel Stepanovich Kutakhov was opened by Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, chairman of the funeral organizing commission.

Farewell speeches were delivered by I.S. Silayev, minister of the aviation industry; Marshal of the Soviet Union S.K. Kurkotkin, chief of the Armed Forces Rear Services and USSR deputy defense minister; and A.N. Yefimov, first deputy commander in chief of the Air Force. They spoke of the significant contribution that P.S. Kutakhov made to the development of the Air Force, the enhancement of its combat readiness, its provision with modern aviation hardware, and the improvement of its tactical and operational skill.

The funeral meeting ended. The strains of the USSR national anthem merged with the volleys of the gun salute. The coffin containing the body was lowered into the ground. Paying the last military honors to Chief Marshal of Aviation P.S. Kutakhov, servicemen of the capital's garrison filed past the grave in strict order.

BEKETOV ON IMPORTANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MEASURES

LD091932 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 9 Dec 84

[From the Vremya newscast; commentary by political observer Viktor Beketov]

[Text] At its regular session, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo discussed special measures to prevent pollution of the atmosphere in towns, other settlements, and industrial centers. A cemmentary by political observer Viktor Beketov:

[Beketov] Hello, comrades! Even a few decades ago, people were little concerned about how much effect their activities had on the environment, and the glow of smelters in the sky and plumes of smoke over new plants symbolized the victorious advance of industry. Today, conservation of the atmosphere, as of the whole environment, is becoming one of our chief concerns. Certain changes for the better have come about in the country in recent years. The number of cities and industrial centers with the highest level of pollution has fallen by more than 20 percent, and the volume of harmful emissions into the atmosphere has fallen by several million metric tons.

Nevertheless, the measures being taken to make the air healthier are still insufficient. The situation is made worse by the rapid development of motor vehicle transport, their harmful emissions sometimes exceeding those of industry. Pollution of the air leads to pollution of soil and water, to the death of forests, and reduction in farmland's fertility as well as having a negative effect on people's health. The greatest harm is caused to the environment by enterprises of the Ministries of Power Engineering and Electrification, Ferrous and Nonferrous Metallurgy, the Chemical Industry, and Mineral Fertilizer Production.

What then are the ways to solve the problem? They are indicated in the decision approved by the CPSU Central Committee Politburo. This means the erection of new gas-cleansing and dust-trapping installations or improvement of their efficiency; stepping up technological disipline; transferring production lines to different types of fuel and raw materials; and changing the type of production where necessary and putting individual workshops and sections outside residential zones. Special attention is drawn to stepping up work by the state inspectorate, which implements monitoring and supervision over the observance of legislation on nature conservation.

There was monitoring and supervision previously, and fairly strict sanctions were applied to enterprises and their managers for exceeding the norms for emissions and other violations. But it is not just something that depends on managers and special agencies. As practice shows, a careless, negligent attitude toward his obligations by an ordinary worker, foreman, or technical engineer can and, unfortunately does, cause considerable damage to nature. For example, we still have sorry excuses for workers who think nothing of driving a motor vehicle with a faulty carburetor, which causes the emission of gases and soot to increase many times over, or to switch off electric filters in chimneys as a way of saving power, or to kill everything living in a river or lake with oil products or toxic chemicals. I don't even care if the grass doesn't grow [idiomatic expression meaning someone doesn't care]; this idiom comes out in its most direct, literal sense when applied to such people.

Meanwhile, such actions far from always get the due evaluation among collectives. Concern for the conservation of nature is still not taken fully into account when summing up results of competitions or in material incentives for workers. Protection of the environment in our country is elevated to the rank of the basic law, the USSR Constitution. Now it is necessary for concern about nature to become the law for all labor collectives, and a moral norm for every one of us.

RSFSR SUPREME SOVIET SESSION CONCLUDES WORK

PM071414 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 7 Dec 84 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed "Information Report on RSFSR Supreme Soviet Session"]

[Text] The 10th session of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, 10th convocation, continued its work 6 December 1984. The third sitting opened at the Great Kremlin Palace at 1000.

The deputies and guests at the session welcomed Comrades V.I. Vorotnikov and I.V. Kapitonov with prolonged applause. Deputy N.M. Gribachev, chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, took the chair.

Debates continued on the reports on the state plan for the economic and social development of the RSFSR in 1985 and the progress in fulfilling the state plan for the economic and social development of the RSFSR in 1984, on the state budget of the RSFSR for 1985 and the execution of the state budget of the RSFSR for 1983, and on the coreport on these items of the session agenda.

The following deputies spoke during the debates: F.I. Pogostinskaya (Chita Oblast's Tsentralnyy Electoral Okrug); I.G. Dudenkov (Irkutsk Oblast's Tayshetskiy Electoral Okrug); V.P. Strelnikov (Moscow Oblast's Kolomenskiy Electoral Okrug); I.P. Kuznetsov (Saratov Oblast's Marksovskiy Electoral Okrug); V.P. Anishchev (Voronezh Oblast's Leninskiy Electoral Okrug); Ch-D.B. Ondar (Tuva ASSR's Chadanskiy Electoral Okrug); V.F. Gorulev (Yaroslavl Oblast's Dzerzhinskiy Electoral Okrug); N.Ya. Lushchenko (Vologda Oblast's Industrialnyy Electoral Okrug); V.P. Loginov, RSFSR minister of land reclamation and water resources; and V.A. Zatonskikh (Lipetsk Oblast's Lipetskiy Electoral Okrug).

Thus the RSFSR Supreme Soviet concluded its debate on the first two items of the session agenda. A concluding speech on the question of the state plan for the economic and social development of the RSFSR in 1985 and the progress in fulfilling the state plan for the economic and social development of the RSFSR in 1984 was delivered by Deputy N.I. Maslennikov, deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the RSFSR Gosplan.

The RSFSR Supreme Soviet adopted a law on the state plan for the economic and social development of the RSFSR in 1985, taking into consideration the amendments of the Plan Budget Commission and other RSFSR Supreme Soviet standing commissions, and a resolution on the progress in fulfilling the state plan for the economic and social development of the RSFSR in 1984.

A concluding speech on the question of the state budget of the RSFSR for 1985 and the execution of the state budget of the RSFSR for 1983 was delivered by Deputy A.A. Bobrovnikov, RSFSR minister of finance.

The RSFSR Supreme Soviet approved the state budget of the RSFSR for 1985, and adopted a law on the state budget of the RSFSR for 1985, taking into considerations the amendments by the Plan and Budget Commission and other RSFSR Supreme Soviet standing commissions and a resolution approving the report on the execution of the state budget of the RSFSR for 1983.

The RSFSR Supreme Soviet then heard a report by Kh.P. Neshkov, secretary of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on decrees issued by the Presidium and submitted for ratification by the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, and adopted the relevant laws and resolutions.

With that, the 10th session of the RSFSR Surpeme Soviet, 10th convocation, ended its work.

REPUBLIC SUPREME SOVIET ELECTIONS SET FOR 24 FEB

LD080830 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 8 Dec 84

[Text] the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has decided to hold elections for the RSFSR Supreme Soviet of the 11th convocation and for the RSFSR local soviets of people's deputies of the 19th convocation on Sunday, 24 February 1985. Elections to the supreme soviets of the republics and to the local soviets of people's deputies have been set for the same day by the presidia of the Supreme Soviets of the Ukraine, Belorussia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Lithuania, Moldavia, Latvia, Kirgizia, Tajikistan, Armenia, Turkmenistan, and Estonia. Elections have also been set for the highest local organs of state power in the autonomous republics. Election constituencies have been formed for elections to the supreme soviets of the union and autonomous republics.

CONFERENCE DISCUSSES ANTICRIME EFFORT IN GEORGIA

PM071356 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 27 Nov 84 pp 1, 2

[GRUZINFORM report: "More Assertive Struggle Against Crime. From the Republican Conference of Leaders of Party, Soviet, Economic, and Administrative Organs"]

[Text] To ensure exemplary public order is one of the most important tasks of party, soviet, and public organizations and administrative organs. This task must be implemented with party principledness and consistency, as was stressed at the republican conference which summed up the results from the struggle against crime in the first 10 months of the year.

Comrades E.A. Shevardnadze, P.G. Gilashvili, G.N. Yenukidze, A.N. Inauri, D.I. Patiashvili, S.Ye. Khabeishvili, O.Ye. Cherkeziya, Zh.K. Shartava, and V.A. Kondratyev, chief of a CPSU Central Committee department, were in the presidium.

E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, delivered a speech at the conference.

The conference noted that in the republic as a whole, positive trends have been achieved in the struggle against crime, in the maintenance of public order, and in the prevention of breaches of the law. The number of serious crimes has fallen, and there have been fewer cases of bodily harm, larceny, robbery, and brigandage, and breaches of the law by minors. The operational situation has significantly improved in all major regions -- the Abkhaz ASSR, the Adzhar ASSR, the South Osetian Autonomous Oblast, Tbilisi, Kutaisi, Rustavi, and other cities and rayons. This has been helped by the creation of a well organized system in the republic for coordinating the activity of party, soviet, and law enforcement organs and public organizations to strengthen law and order.

Nevertheless, there are quite a few shortcomings and unresolved questions in the struggle against breaches of the law. The conference participants correctly pointed out that some organs of the prosecutor's office, internal affairs, justice, and people's courts manifest passivity, professional incompetence, and inconsistency in extirpating all kinds of negative phenomena.

Preventive work is poorly organized in Tbilisi's Saburtalinskiy, Ordzhonokidzevskiy, and Kirovskiy Rayons, in Kobuletskiy, Khelvachaurskiy, Ochamchirskiy, Gudautskiy, and Galskiy Rayons, and in the city of Sukhumi. Although squabbles between neighbors or within families are the cause of many serious crimes, due attention is not paid to the settlement of everyday conflicts. Much experience in fruitful work to prevent such crimes has been accumulated in Lentekhskiy Rayon. It is important to make broader use of it.

The conference paid much attention to questions of ensuring the safekeeping of socialist property. This is one of the most important aspects of the activity of administrative organs, and it is necessary for it to be constantly monitored by the party. For example, when this monitoring was slackened by the Mtskhetskiy Party Raykom, it led to slackening of the struggle against bribery, speculation, and embezzlement of socialist property in the rayon. Such monitoring appears to be carried out in Terzholskiy Rayon, but it is only conducted formally and the work of the organs of the Bureau for Struggle Against Embezzlement of Socialist Property and Speculation in particular is not improving. All those who fail to ensure the reliable safekeeping of the people's wealth should have been called more strictly to account a long time ago.

Instances of embezzlement within the system of the Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Farming were quoted at the conference. The ministry's commission to combat negative phenomena, which should set the tone in imposing the proper order in the sector, meets only sporadically and has no work plan. The situation is similar at the State Committee for the Wine Making Industry. The embezzlement and various officials and economic abuses within the systems of the Ministries of Local Industry, Light Industry, Food Industry, Trade, and Consumer Services, and the Union of Consumer Cooperatives have still not been ended. Proper order has yet to be imposed in hospitals and other medical institutions, and coaching and other negative phenomena flourish in VUZes, technical colleges, and secondary schools.

The conference demanded that the leaders of ministries and departments and the secretaries of their primary party organizations display greater activeness and implacability in the struggle to impose exemplary order and analyzed in detail the work of the Bureau for Struggle Against Embezzlement of Socialist Property and Speculation apparatus, extradepartmental security, investigative and judicial organs, and the State Committee for Arbitration. The reliable safeguarding of the people's wealth and proper assertiveness and activeness in the struggle for socialist law and order depend largely on their well organized and professional work.

Party committees and leaders of ministries and departments were told to discuss at meetings of party and economic aktivs and enlarged collegium sessions, to be held in December this year and in January next year, the questions of strengthening discipline and stepping up the struggle against economic mismanagement, theft, embezzlement of state and public property, bribery, and other abuses. Positions with regard to persons who are incapable of ensuring proper safekeeping of socialist property must be clearly defined, and the necessary measures must be taken to impose state order everywhere and in everything.

IMPROPRIETIES AT TALLINN SCIENCE CENTER CORRECTED

LD072058 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Commentary by Sergey Zheleznyak]

[Excerpts] Estonia's people's controllers' acquaintance with (Tenson), director of the Tallinn Science Education Center of the Special (Algoritm) Science Production Association, dates from long ago -- back in early 1981.

At that time, the director was given an administrative punishment for blatant infringement and was charged to pay back an unauthorized expenditure.

Together with his new accountant, (Gryunberg,) the director continued juggling with the amounts received for goods marketed. He kept silent about some of them, while others were put on the books long before they arrived. For example, money earned in February was put on the March account, while in May, amounts due to come in June were put on the books. As a result, the plan for these months was in effect not fulfilled, but the bonus of R10,966 was received.

One time, when they were short R10,000 for fulfillment of the plan for marketing goods, the director remembered that the Tallinn center had acquired a piece of diagnostic equipment for the (Kursaal) kolkhoz worth that amount. This equipment was on the spot marketed to the farm, but as the Science Education Center's own goods. When the bonus arrived for fulfilling the plan, it was again bought back from the same kolkhoz by the center.

As for the damage inflicted on the state, Tenson also found a curious method here. A woman named Matveyeva was put on the payroll. Her duties consisted of receiving wages and transferring them to the chief accountant Gryunberg, who in turn regularly split the amount in two: One share was given to the inspectors of the association, the other used for paying off the unauthorized expenditure charge imposed on the director by the people's controllers back during their first meeting.

So that such a meeting should not be repeated, this time the people's controllers acted differently. They fired both director Tenson and chief accountant Gryunberg and handed over the results of their check to the republic's procuracy.

SHCHERBITSKIY VISITS SCHOOL REFORM EXHIBITION

AU071919 Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1845 GMT 7 Dec 84

[Text] In conformity with the decisions of the April 1984 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the first session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, a reform of general education and of vocational schools is being carried out in the republic and all over the country. The work initiated to put the reform into effect, as well as the creativity of pupils, have been shown at an exhibition organized by the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and the Ukrainian State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education.

On 7 December, Comrades Shcherbitskiy, Yelchenko, Kachalovskiy, Kachura, Lyashko, Mozgovoy, Sologub, Titarenko, Kapto, Kryuchkov, Mukha, and Pogrebnyak visited the exhibition. While familarizing themselves with the exhibition, the republic's party and government leaders noted the need to further enhance technical creativity among the pupils and to more effectively and purposefully engage them in socially useful work, in concrete tasks accomplished by production collectives.

During the inspection of the exhibition, Fomenko, Ukrainian minister of education, and Kadatskiy, chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, acted as guides.

BRIEFS

REST DAY CHANGED -- the USSR Council of Ministers has decided to change the Day of Rest this year from Saturday, 29 December to Monday, 31 December. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 8 Dec 84 LD]

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ON CONSUMER GOODS PRODUCTION

FM071157 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Dec 84 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "For the Good of the People"]

[Text] Our society is developing in the interests of the working people. Concern for people, for creating proper conditions for their work and everyday life, and for the all-around development of the individual is at the focus of attention of the Communist Party and the Soviet state. The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee October (1984) Plenum, Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speeches at the plenum and the Central Committee Politburo session, and the laws adopted at the recent USSR Supreme Soviet session are aimed at the consistent implementation of the socioeconomic program outlined by the 26th party congress and at the enhancement of the people's living standards. The tasks set forth in these most important documents have been received by the Soviet people as guidance for action, as a call for inspired, creative labor.

"All our efforts to speed up the development of the economy," Comrade K.U. Chernenko noted in his speech at the CPSU Central Committee Politburo session, "ultimately aim at enabling us to allocate more resources to social needs and to accelerate the improvement of the population's living standards. This, precisely, is the goal of our plans."

It is well known that over the past 2 years the social production development rate has increased and qualitative indicators have improved, thus favorably affecting the rise in the people's living standards. The population's real per capita incomes will have increased by 3.3 percent in 1984 against the 3.1 percent envisaged by the plan. Social consumption funds will have increased by 3.5 percent and reached almost R140 billion. This year 113.7 million square meters of housing will have been built -- much more than during any other year of this 5-year plan.

However, we cannot rest content with what we have achieved. The party is calling on us to eliminate shortcomings more quickly, to advance, not only to consolidate but also to augment, the positive developments in the economy. Sizable tasks have been set for the 5th and final year of the 5-year plan in the social sphere, bearing in mind the Soviet people's growing material and spiritual needs. Real per capital incomes are to rise by 3.3 percent, wages of workers and employees will increase noticeably, retail trade turnover is to be greatly increased, 10.7 million square meters of housing more than was envisaged by the 5-year plan for this year is to be built, and the network of health care and cultural establishments and schools is to be considerably expanded. Soviets are called upon to take constant pains to improve consumer and sociocultural services and to put the vast sums allocated for this purpose to the best possible use.

The party has set the task of decisively improving supplies to the population of industrial goods, and, what is more, of high quality goods: fashionable clothing and footwear, modern and reliable television sets and refrigerators. However, such goods and many types of services are still in short supply.

Why is this? Industry has proved unprepared for the change in demand. Goods in low demand are still being produced to excess, while quality goods for which demand is high are in short supply. Many letters arrive at the PRAVDA editorial office complaining about the current unavailability of quality winter footwear, especially for children. At the same time, in a number of stores the shelves are full of summer shoes. There are quite a few warnings about the total lack in stores of some very ordinary but quite indispensable goods.

The USSR Ministry of the Light Industry, which has failed to study demand and did not take steps in time to ensure the reorganization of production at a number of capacities, is primarily to blame for this. At the recent Supreme Soviet session the ministry's leadership, and especially Minister N.N. Tarasov, were sharply criticized for the serious shortcomings which they had allowed to occur. The sector's leaders must draw the appropriate conclusions from this.

Similar criticism can be leveled at enterprises in a number of other industrial sectors. Many of them fail to meet targets and breach contracts. The task now is to involve all ministries, associations, and enterprises in the production of goods and the provision of services to the population. Local authorities must exercise their extensive rights and exploit their potential here, and put resources to good use.

Ever higher demands are made on trade. It must satisfy the population's demand more fully, ensure,without fail, the fulfillment of the retail commodity turnover plans, strengthen its business ties with industry, and press for the increased production of consumer goods, the improvement of their quality, and widening of their range. The USSR Ministry of Trade, the Tsentrosoyuz, and their organs at local level are too slow in reorganizing their work in view of the increased demands. The organization of market research is poor, and there are shortcomings in the distribution and utilization of goods resources and in the formulation of orders.

In a number of places -- Moscow, Leningrad, Minsk, Vilnius, Riga, and Voroshilovgrad -- valuable experience in the organization of trade has been accumulated. However, it is not being sufficiently studied and disseminated and due attention is not paid to the standards of service and the introduction of progressive methods. Local soviets are called upon to pay more attention to the construction and modernization of enterprises producing goods in mass demand and also the construction and modernization of stores, canteens, and consumer service facilities.

The production of consumer goods and the development of the service sphere is an important party matter. Success in this sector, as else where, depends on an improved standard of party leadership and the stepping up of educational work among the masses. Party committees, together with the soviets, are instructed to systematically analyze the situation in consumer goods production and the organization of trade and the entire service sphere, help solve overdue tasks, reinforce the sectors with skilled and enterprising cadres, and hold them strictly accountable.

The role and responsibility of Communists who are involved in consumer goods production or the work of the service sphere is great. Let each one of them ask himself: What else can I do the ensure that all reserves are brought into play? The main criterion today is not only how well a Communist works and behaves, but also how resolutely and actively he combats shortcomings and strives for a general improvement in the state of affairs.

Enhancing the people's living standards and ensuring a full, spiritually rich and happy life for them -- with this noble goal in mind our party channels the masses' energy into new achievements in the development of the economy and the social sphere and in the implementation of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress.

VOZNESENSKIY INTERVIEWS LAND RECLAMATION MINISTER

OW081307 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0815 GMT 24 Nov 84

[From the "Political Observer's Talk" program; political observer L.A. Voznesenskiy interview with N.F. Vasilyev, USSR minister of land reclamation and water resources]

[Excerpts] [Voznesenskiy] Hello comrades. Maybe some of these facts will surprise many of you as at one time they surprised me when I acquainted myself with them. Frankly, they even astounded me. It turns out that in order to get enough grain to make the flour used for one 13-kopek loaf of bread, or in order to grow a head of cabbage, the earth needs to be given half a metric ton of water. To produce beets from which only 1 kilogram of sugar will be produced requires 2.5 metric tons of water and to grow a kilogram of rice, 5-6 metric tons.

At the same time, 75 percent of agricultural land in our country is located in dry zones and we are often, I would say too often in recent years, reminded of this by droughts that often cover large regions of the country. For this reason alone, one can say that the question of a long-term land reclamation program, of raising the efficiency of reclaimed land use with the aim of steadily increasing the country's food reserves discussed by the October Central Committee Plenum is of truly vital significance for all of us.

The plenum adopted a number of new fundamental directives on the questions of land reclamation in our country. What do they consist of? This question is being addressed by me to Nikolay Fedorovich Vasilyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of land reclamation and water resources.

[Vasilyev] The very fact that the CPSU Central Committee plenum discussed the question of land reclamation development attests to the fact that this problem is by no means an [agricultural] branch or only an economic problem, but that this problem is of great political, social, and economic significance.

The long-term Land Reclamation Program has two main trends. The first is to ensure a high yield of all agricultural crops on already available reclaimed land and on available irrigated and drained agricultural land. The other involves the fact that we still have very little reclaimed land -- it consists of only 12 percent of the overall agricultural land and of the perennial plantings -- so, therefore, the second main trend is the further large-scale development of land reclamation work in our country.

The plenum determined that further development of land reclamation in our country will ensure an upsurge not only of agricultural production but of the country's entire economy as well. I consider this a new, fundamentally new, and a further development of the agrarian policy of our party at the present stage.

[Voznesenskiy] Nikolay Fedorovich, maybe from this point of view that you have just proposed, and taking into consideration the fact that we will emphasize other new elements introduced by the plenum, we will continue our talk. First, I would like to ask you to describe the kinds of work encompassed by this broad understanding of land reclamation.

[Vasilyev] First, control of the water regime. This control of the water regime is accomplished in two ways. In the dry zone where there is insufficient moisture we must provide moisture. We are doing this through irrigation. In the zone of excess moisture we must divert this moisture from the fields with the use of a collecting drainage system.

[Voznesenskiy] But, Nikolay Fedorovich, we have some areas of the country where, for instance, this year we have an abundance of moisture but last year, say, or next year there will be insufficient moisture.

[Vasilyev] You are right, Lev Aleksandrovich. This too must be envisaged by us -- the fact that weather conditions change. Therefore, we must establish two-way control systems in the dry zones. In other words, during the period when there is a lot of moisture, we must drain it away, while when there is insufficient moisture, we must provide it. For this purpose there are two-way control systems.

Amelioration work is carried out on a very large scale and includes the removal of rocks and brush from fields and the planning and expansion of contours. It also includes questions of chemical land improvement whereby we must eliminate excessive soil acidity or salinization. In a word, everything related to the improvement or increased yield of soil is included in the term land reclamation.

[Voznesenskiy] Nevertheless, what have we managed to do during the past 5-year plan periods, particularly since the May 1966 Plenum was devoted, as you know, to questions of land reclamation?

[Vasilyev] After the May 1966 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, enormous work has been carried out in our country. Capital investments in the land reclamation branch amounted to R115 billion in our country, and 19 million hectares of irrigated land and 14 million hectares of drained land were put to use.

[Voznesenskiy] In other words, today we have at our disposal 33 million hectares of reclaimed land.

[Vasilyev] Yes, Lev Aleksandrovich, and from this area we are receiving a third of all crop cultivation products, or, in other words, all the cotton and rice, 75 percent of the vegetables, 50 percent of the fruit and grapes, and 25 percent of the coarse and succulent feed for public livestock. Besides, the trend is such that the production of crop cultivation products is growing every year without a decrease during dry years.

[Voznesenskiy] Nikolay Fedorovich, the figures you have mentioned are of course extremely impressive, but, nevertheless, we always want the truth to be as precise as possible. I would like to propose that, together with our television viewers, we take a look at and listen to an account of the effect that can be achieved with the correct use of the possibilities of land reclamation.

[The video shows the nameplate of the All-Union "Raduga" Scientific Production Association of Irrigation Machanization and cuts to show Yakov Germanovich Gering, chairman of "30 Let Kazakhstana" Kolkhoz]

[Begin Gering recording] We have constant winds for 306 days of the year. The temperature is 40 degrees centigrade both in summer and winter. Relative humidity is up to 90 percent in summer. The soil is very light and sandy and poor; humus makes up only 1.5 percent. It should be noted that poor yields or dry years are often repeated.

We began irrigation in 1961. We have no rivers, lakes, or anything else -- all we have is steppe and sands. The main source turned out to be subterranean water found at depths of 1,100 meters. From 1961 until today the farm has operated at a profit in absolutely all crop cultivation and animal husbandry indicators.

I should add that the population is growing here, the economy improving, and the farmstead developing. [end Gering recording]

[Voznesenskiy] Well, there are many examples of such highly efficient land reclamation in the country. But it seems to me, Nikolay Fedorovich, that our main task today lies in concentrating attention on the shortcomings that are unfortunately too widespread in the use of the possibilities of every reclaimed hectare of land. It was precisely this circumstance that great attention was focused on, as you know, by the CPSU Central Committee plenum.

[Vasilyev] Yes, Lev Aleksandrovich, despite all the benefits and the great contribution being made by the reclamation of land to increasing the production of agricultural products in our country, there are very many and very serious shortcomings in the use of reclaimed land. Reclaimed land is not being used fully, it is not being irrigated with sufficient frequency, not enough mineral fertilizers are being used, there are cases when reclamation networks are in poor technical condition, and there are cases of waterlogging, elevation of ground water levels, and secondary salinization.

Therefore, concern for further raising harvest yields of all agricultural crops is that main direction that was discussed at the CPSU Central Committee plenum. And in this regard I would like to say that two fundamentally new decisions were adopted that should help us ensure an increase in the production of agricultural products. The first one boils down to transferring the intrafarm meliorative network from the balance sheet of kolkhozes and sovkhozes to the balance sheet of water management organizations.

Now I would like to digress here somewhat to explain that the meliorative network consists of two parts -- the interfarm meliorative network that carries out the supply of water to the boundaries of a farm, and the intrafarm meliorative network that is on the farm itself. As a rule the interfarm network is in good condition, and we uninterruptedly deliver water in all conditions to the farms' boundaries.

Owing to various reasons, the intrafarm meliorative network is very often in an unsatisfactory state, and this leads to deficiencies in the use of reclaimed lands. Now these meliorative networks will be placed on the balance sheet of water management organizations, and the responsibility of our minister will be greatly increased. If in the past we supplied water only to the boundaries of the farms, now we must supply it to every irrigated field. Our responsibility will increase, but I am deeply convinced that this will be covered by a large increase in the production of agricultural produce.

[Voznesenskiy] Nikolay Fedorovich, when I studied plenum materials, I came to the conclusion that you are becoming some kind of direct coparticipants and are correspondingly responsible not only for the fact of water supply directly to the fields, but also for the crops gathered on these fields.

[Vasilyev] This is correct, Lev Aleksandrovich, and in this connection there is also a second and very important fundamental issue which boils down to economic and moral responsibility being established for production on irrigated and drained lands.

On the one hand, the kolkhozes and sovkhozes will bear responsibility for the supply of full requirements of mineral fertilizers, herbicides, and toxic chemicals to the irrigated areas, for the timely and good performance of all the agricultural jobs, and on the other hand, the water management organizations will have to uninterruptedly and, according to water utilization plans, supply water to the required places and in the required amounts, so as to ensure optimal irrigation and thus increase yields.

Very characteristic is the fact that material responsibility is being established. In case planned yields are not obtained through the fault of water management organizations, the organizations of the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources will have to compensate the kolkhozes and sovkhozes for the production shortfall. And, conversely, there is the responsibility of the farms if they fail to do what is required of them. I think that the establishment of this kind of mutual responsibility must not lead to confrontation, but must lead to pulling up both partners in the production of agricultural produce and to increased production. I think this measure is well founded, will be very effective, and will produce good results.

[Voznesenskiy] Nikolay Fedorovich, you spoke about responsibility. And what about the mutual economic incentives in raising or reaching high final results?

[Vasilyev] You are right, Lev Aleksandrovich, because not only sanctions but also incentives can be a stimulus for increasing production. The fact that the partners will receive appropriate rewards for reaching planned yields, for obtaining yields specific in agreements, will have a great influence in this connection.

[Voznesenskiy] Nikolay Fedorovich, I think that we shall be consistent to the end today, so let us go once again along this road, the road of specification of general provisions and ideas on concrete examples.

[Vasilyev] Very good.

[Voznesenskiy] We have this possibility.

[The video shows Nikolay Leontiyevich Shevchenko, chief of Stavropol Kray Water Management Organization]

[Begin Shevchenko recording] The government has decided to hand all the intrafarm irrigation network of the kolkhozes and sovkhozes to the balance sheet of water management organizations. We have been conducting this type of work over two years, 1981 and 1982. At present the entire network has been placed on our balance sheet. What has this yielded? Well, first of all, it has let to kolkhozes and sovkhozes' concern with clearing and repairing the irrigation network being removed. The farms must now focus their attention on ensuring the best use of irrigated lands, the timely supply of required quantities of local and mineral fertilizers, using good quality seeds for sowing on irrigated lands, ensuring that the areas are irrigated in good time, and ensuring the use of all required sprinklers. There has been a considerable reduction of cases when areas are not irrigated because of defects in irrigation networks or faulty equipment at pumping stations. All the irrigated lands are assigned to brigades, teams which have been organized. The measures taken have made it possible to increase somewhat agricultural crop yields. Some 65 to 70 quintals of feed crops are now obtained on irrigated lands in Stavropol Kray. Many farms have already reached projected yields and reached the yields specified during the planning of the irrigation network.

Other farms are on the way to reaching these indicators. At present, some 80 percent of the farms have reached the projected yields for one or two leading crops. We shall continue to improve our structure so as to simplify it and relieve the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of having to deal with many organizations both servicing and carrying out adjustment, repair and construction jobs at the time of land reclamation. This work is now performed by the rayon water supply and irrigation network administrations, which are called upon to solve absolutely all the problems comprehensively in every rayon, and every farm in the rayon, connected with land reclamation.

Of course not everything has been brought to perfection, but we are on the road of reorganization, and we think that somewhere in 1985 or in 1986 we will complete the reconstruction of our systems. They will perform absolutely all types of jobs in the field of repair and servicing of irrigation networks in order to ensure irrigation of all the areas. Of course, there are defects and difficulties in this work. We are short of material and technical resources which we must receive for repair and servicing jobs. There is a shortage of transport, heavy-duty machinery, especially equipment for clearing drainage systems, but we think that we shall get aid in this field from our RSFSR ministry, and the USSR Land Reclamation and Water Resources Ministry. [end Shevchenko recording]

[Vasilyev] This is a very good example. Stavropol Kray carried out this experiment over a period of 2 years, and during the preparations for the CPSU Central Committee plenum, this experiment was taken into consideration to some extent. Now this kind of servicing of the intrafarm network will be carried out on the scale of the entire country. Nikolay Leontiyevich Shevchenko has raised many practical issues, and this for us is the beginning of an immense amount of new work. We have not yet developed the technology, we do not have the necessary norm data, cadres have not been trained, and we shall have to study anew in order to become direct participants in the production of agricultural produce on irrigated and drained lands.

[Voznesenskiy] Today, the large-scale and long-term Land Reclamation Program under our huge country's conditions cannot be carried out without heavy-duty and the most modern machinery.

[Vasilyev] First of all our branch will be reequipped with new industrial tractors, T-330, and T-500 tractors, and multi-purpose chassis for land reclamation work. On the basis of these machines all the bulldozers, brush cutters, excavators and other equipment will be built. The equipment we are talking about can be seen from the example of our "Raduga" Scientific-Production Association located in Kolomna where are displayed the basic land reclamation machines which are used during the construction of irrigated and drained systems. This equipment is more powerful and more efficient, and it will make it possible for us to solve large-scale tasks. The branch will be reequippd with new technology. In addition, many other problems are included in land reclamation work. We shall be provided with large quantities of polymer materials which will make it possible to install trench drainage at irrigation and draining systems.

Considerable attention is being paid to the automation of water supply and irrigation, and I can even say that with appropriate help, during the 12th and 13th 5-Year Plan periods, we shall be able to switch over all the pumping station and large-size sprinklers to automatic operation without human participation. I am also talking about sprinklers which will operate around the clock without the participation of attendant personnel.

The use of aerospace probing for determining the water content, waterlogging, salinity, and other facts concerning land will be of very great importance for us. This will make it possible for us to maintain reclaimed lands in a better condition. Laser equipment making it possible for us to fit all the earthmoving machines with laser devices will be of great significance. We shall be provided with many new types of sprinklers. The production of "Fregat" and "Kuban" sprinklers will be increased, and much other irrigation technology will be developed.

[Voznesenskiy] Nikolay Fedorovich, though our country's water resources are extremely great, they are not limitless, and then you cannot supply them over a very long distance to the fields, though sometimes you have to solve almost fantastic tasks.

I think the task for raising the effectiveness of reclaimed hectares must include and most probably does include as a subtask the sparing use of water.

[Vasilyev] The issue of sparing use of water resources is one of our main tasks, and there are very many methods of conservation. Our canals are not lined, and large amounts of water seep into the soil. We also have uncalled-for release of water onto fields. There are individual instances of excessive irrigation. In a word, we have many possibilities for conserving water resources, and we must deal with this. In our everyday work we must be concerned with careful conservation of water resources.

[Voznesenskiy] Nikolay Fedorovich, land reclamation is of course an expensive business, yet at the same time it is a highly effective matter. In the Ukraine, 30 quintals of grain corn have been obtained on experimental fields without irrigation or fertilizers and 91 with irrigation and fertilizers, which is three times more. Similar proportions have been obtained with wheat, vegetables, alfalfa, and other crops. That is what land reclamation can produce with a really comprehensive approach to the matter.

[Vasilyev] This only shows that all the factors of plant life must be used comprehensively so that every factor increases the influence of another factor. This is a very correct trend, and as the CPSU Central Committee plenum has very correctly demanded, we must conduct land reclamation in a comprehensive manner. This means that together with irrigation and drainage projects, we must also build agricultural services, housing, cultural, and consumer facilities projects so that we can have sufficient manpower for use on reclaimed lands. It is necessary to build roads in order to transport agricultural produce. In other words, land reclamation must be conducted comprehensively and create all the infrastructure which will make it possible to obtain great returns from these lands.

[Voznesenskiy] Other plenum materials say that by the year 2000 we must increase by 1.5 times the area of reclaimed lands, and that at the same time we shall be in a position to double production on these lands. Here are two figures, taken as final, which give an idea of the effectiveness of the great capital investments the government provides for conducting large-scale land reclamation jobs.

[Vasilyev] Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko's speeches at the CPSU Central Committee plenum and the CPSU Central Committee Politburo sessions held subsequently which discussed the question of the country's national economic development in 1985, contained views concerning the intensification of production and increasing the returns of existing national economic facilities. We consider these trends to be completely correct, and we shall take all the measures depending on us for increasing the returns from existing facilities and further intensifying production.

[Voznesenskiy] The huge work outlined in the decisions of the October CPSU Central Committee Plenum cannot of course be fulfilled by just one ministry or even a group of ministries, but can be tackled only by the entire country.

[Vasilyev] This is completely correct, Lev Aleksandrovich, and this is why we say that this is an all-state, all-party task.

[Voznesenskiy] Today we are all consumers of agricultural produce using the products of land reclamation.

In conclusion I would like to say that only through our common efforts can we ensure a higher return from it and make reclaimed lands a reliable guarantor of stable yields in our country and, consequently, as is said in the October Plenum materials, increase the stability of not only agriculture but the entire national economy.

Allow me to wish you, Nikolay Fedorovich, and all the land reclamation workers of our country successes in this huge and in essence all-national task.

IZVESTIYA ENUMERATES BENEFITS OF AFFORESTATION

PM060942 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 4 December in its Morning Edition carries on page 2, under the rubric "Reflections," a 2,500-word article by Anatoliy Ivashchenko datelined Kamennaya Steppe and entitled "The Steppe After the Drought."

Ivashchenko begins by describing in general terms the benefits of forests and outlining the afforestation measures taken since 1969 and their effect on agriculture. Turning to specifics, he describes a visit he made recently to the Central Chernozem Region. Noting that harvests have been unstable and yields have been falling because of drought, he goes on:

"It is true that this calamity occurs increasingly often. While there were only 7 drought years in the first half of this century, there were 10 of them in the subsequent 24 years. This can be explained not only by climatic vagaries, but also by the practice of land cultivation itself. This year's drought was similar to the droughts that occurred in 1899, 1921, and 1924. April and May were particularly adverse -- just 20 mm of precipitation instead of the usual 80 mm."

The author then turns to the positive effects of afforestation in the Kamennaya Steppe region and the recommendations contained in a recent book by Oleg Dronov, Aleksandr Murzin, and Anatoliy Fedorov entitled "The Great Steppe" [Velikaya Step], published in 1984 by the Political Literature Publishing House. Referring to controversies regarding the effect of afforestation on soil and yields, he says:

"How can one not ponder the following data when reviewing opinions on forests? By comparison with the exposed steppe, the soil protected by afforestation freezes to a lesser depth (up to 50 percent less), wind speeds are reduced by one-third and even by one-half, and the accumulation of snow is 1.5-2 times greater, is more equally distributed, and, after melting, results in significantly more (up to 44 mm) moisture remaining in the soil."

Ivashchenko outlines the benefits of forests not just for agriculture but also for other economic sectors and concludes:

"We are masters of our land. It is the only land we have. It is our home and we must look after it."

SELSKAYA ZHIZN REPORTS LATE NOV WEATHER, CROPS

PM071141 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 4 Dec 84 p 1

[Report by agrometeorologist Y. Zverintseva under the rubric "The USSR Hydrometeorological Center Reports": "The Weather and the Crops"]

[Text] In the European part of the USSR the weather has been unstable. At the end of the 10-day period there was a sharp drop in temperature and then it rose again.

Minimum air temperatures fluctuated between minus 3-minus 10 and minus 15 degrees. Precipitation fell on the major part of the territory for 3-6 days. In most regions 11-35 mm of precipitation fell, and in the south of Krasnodar Kray there was 105 mm in places. Little precipitation was recorded in some oblasts of the Ukraine, the southeast of the Volga Region, and the east of the North Caucasus Region.

As of 30 November the snow demarcation line ran through Tallinn, Vitebsk, Bryansk, Tambov, and Uralsk. The snow is deepest (20-40 cm) at the moment in the east of the northern region, the northeast of the Volgo-Vyatka Region, and the north of the Urals Region. On the rest of the territory the depth of snow cover is fluctuating mostly between 5 and 16 cm, though in places it is less than 5 cm.

The ground is frozen to depth of 20-40 cm. In some regions of the Baltic and Belorussia, the Ukraine (excluding the northeastern and eastern oblasts), and the North Caucasus, the ground is either not frozen or only frozen to a depth of 10 cm.

Winter crops are in a good state for the most part. Minimum ground temperatures at tillering node depth were between minus 4 and minus 8 degrees. The rain which fell in the south replenished the stocks of productive moisture. At the end of the 10-day period winter grain crops ceased vegetation.

Because of the sharp drop in temperature in a number of rayons, it is possible that some damage has been done to fruit and leaf buds on stone-fruit crops and also on winter strains of apple trees which fruit abundantly in summer.

In the Transcaucasus republics warm and mostly dry weather was recorded for the greater part of the 10 days, but on 29 November it became colder and frosts were recorded. Most precipitation occurred in the western half of Georgia, while in the other rayons there was less than 10 mm and in places no rain was recorded at all. For the greater part of the 10 days winter grain crops were growing. The wintering conditions for fruit crops are satisfactory.

There is frost in the farming regions of West Siberia and northern Kazakhstan. Between 31 and 43 degrees of frost were recorded northwest of a line linking Kustanay, Tselinograd, Novosibirsk, and Tomsk. On the rest of the territory there were 20-29 degrees of frost. The deepest snow cover (20-30 cm) is recorded in Tomsk, Novosibirsk, and Kemerovo Oblasts and in certain rayons of Omsk, north Kazakhstan, Kokchetav, Pavlodar, and east Kazakhstan Oblasts. On the major part of the territory the ground is frozen to a depth of 30-90 cm. Winter crops and perennial grasses are wintering well. In East Siberia average air temperatures were 3-10 degrees above normal. The snow cover everywhere is between 2 and 20 cm deep, and in the north of Irkutsk Oblast it is 45 cm deep. The ground is frozen to a depth of 50-120 cm.

In southern Kazakhstan warm weather persisted. There was a negligible amount of precipitation. It has also been warm in the republics of Central Asia. Daytime air temperatures rose to 12-20 degrees, and to 28 degrees in places in the extreme south. Most precipitation (11-30 mm, and more in places) fell in the north of Kirgizia, Tashkent, and Syr-Darya Oblasts, the south of Dzhizak and Samarkand Oblasts, in places in Kashka-Darya and Surkhan-Darya Oblasts, in a number of the central rayons of Tajikistan, and in the southwest of Turkmenia. Grasses continue their growth on the pasturelands of Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

EDITORIAL VIEWS SERVICEMEN'S ROLE IN 1985 PLAN

PM071505 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 30 Nov 84 Second Edition p 1

[Editorial: "For the People's Good"]

[Excerpts] The second session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 11th convocation, has concluded its work in Moscow. Deputies comprehensively discussed and unanimously approved the State Plan for the economic and social development of the USSR and the USSR State Budget for 1985 and adopted corresponding laws and resolutions.

The entire session's work proceeded in the spirit of the constructive ideas, instructions, and conclusions put forward by Comrade K.U. Chernenko at the CPSU Central Committee Politburo session which examined the draft plan and budget for next year. That program speech is a model of a creative and professional approach to the solution of the vitally important tasks confronting the country.

Next year's plan envisages a further buildup in the country's industrial might. It outlines major measures to increase the production and improve the quality and range of consumer goods. Tasks connected with implementing the Food Program occupy a special place in it. The quantity of modern equipment available to agriculture and all sectors of the agro-industrial complex will be increased. The supply of mineral fertilizers to the countryside will be stepped up. The long-term program for land reclamation and increasing the effectiveness of the utilization of reclaimed lands, approved by the October (1984) Plenum, will be implemented.

The dynamic growth in general economic indicators guarantees that the social section of the plan will be attained. In accordance with the 5-year plan targets, it envisages increasing the social consumption funds and the construction of housing, schools, hospitals, polyclinics, kindergartens, and creches. The population's real income will increase by 3.3 percent. The system of raising the salaries of teachers and a number of categories of agricultural workers centrally will continue. It is planned to extend the benefits available to veterans of the Great Patriotic War and increase the minimum old-age pension paid to kolkhoz members, as well as to workers and employees who retired to well earned rest more than 10 years ago.

All this convinces us once again that the Communist Party and the Soviet state place the people's interests and well-being above all else. Soviet people are responding to this tireless concern by selfless, conscientious labor and by waging everywhere a persistent struggle to further improve the productivity and quality of work, to make all-around savings on money and resources, and to improve discipline and organization, which is acquiring particularly great significance at the present stage of social development. "The uniqueness of the present moment," Comrade K.U. Chernenko said in his speech to the CPSU Central Committee Politburo session, "requires that we raise all work to a qualitatively higher level and rationalize every component of the production process."

Workers, kolkhoz members, engineers, and economists will be applying all their effort and knowledge to practically implementing this task.

Soviet servicemen, together with the rest of the people, are making their contribution to strengthening the motherland's might. They wholly and unanimously approve the party's policy and the strategy of communist creation.

Like all Soviet people, the Armed Forces servicemen welcomed with a sense of satisfaction the fact that next year's plan and budget take due account of the need to strengthen the country's defense capability. The party and Soviet state cannot ignore the growing aggressiveness of imperialism and its attempts to achieve military superiority over the socialist community. The Soviet Union has no intention of attacking anyone, but while protecting the people's peaceful labor and upholding the cause of peace throughout the world, it will increase its defense capability.

Soviet servicemen are well aware of their increasing responsibility in this matter involving all the people. The comprehensive explanation to the personnel of the profound ideological content of Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speech to the CPSU Central Committee Politburo session and the materials of the second session of the USSR Supreme Soviet will help to raise their political consciousness. K.U. Chernenko's speech and the session materials must be sutdied with all categories of Army and Navy servicemen. 4-6 hours are being set aside in the system of political sutdies for soldiers, sailors, sergeants, and petty officers; 4 hours are being set aside in the political studies of ensigns and warrant officers; one seminar class is being allocated in the system of Marxist-Leninist training for officers and generals. Two classes should be held at universities of Marxism-Leninism and party aktiv achools and in the entire system of party and economic education and Komsomol political enlightenment.

The tasks stemming from Comrade K.U. Chernenko's speech to the CPSU Central Committee Politburo session, as well as the USSR Defense Ministry's requirements for the new training year, must be examined at military council sessions, party aktiv meetings, and at primary party, Komsomol, and trade union organizations. This will all help to further increase the combat readiness of the Army and Navy, which are reliably mounting guard over the peaceful labor of the people and the gains of socialism.

Soviet people are confidently resolving the tasks facing them. In fervently approving the plans for communist creation and devoting all their strength and creative energy to fulfilling them, they are stating that everything the party has planned will be implemented.

MILITARY VUZ CHIEFS HOLD TRAINING CONFERENCE

PM051517 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Nov 84 Second Edition p 3

["Our Correspondent" report: "Improving the Training of Political Section Cadres"]

[Text] A 2-day conference of leading personnel of higher military-political VUZes has been held. The report by Lieutenant General D. Volkogonov, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, and the speeches by Comrades V. Korolenko, Ye. Popov, N. Domashev, A. Korostylenko, A. Ignatov, and others examined topical problems of further improving the teaching of social sciences and the education and training of students and cadets in light of the demands of the 26th party congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums and the orders and directives of the USSR defense minister and the chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

Particular attention was paid to questions of improving the training, educational process, and the quality of training of political section cadres. The participants in the conference familiarized themselves with the Simferopol Higher Military-Political Building College's educational facilities.